



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Government, LDP Agree on Sending Minesweepers

OW2204091591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Excerpt] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party Monday agreed in principle to send Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, officials said.

The agreement was made at a meeting of cabinet ministers and LDP executives. At the meeting, they also set an LDP executive council session Tuesday for a formal party decision on the issue, the officials said.

Nations in the multi-national coalition that defeated Iraq in the Persian Gulf war have asked Japan to send minesweepers to help clear the Gulf of mines left by the Iraqis.

The government will decide the matter officially Wednesday at an extra cabinet session after a meeting of the Security Council, the nation's top defense policy board chaired by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, officials said.

Before the cabinet decision, Kaifu will meet opposition party leaders Tuesday to discuss the controversial issue.

The government plans to issue a statement on the minesweeper deployment Wednesday to seek public support for the first overseas deployment of Japanese troops on a non-training operation since World War II.

Government sources said a minesweeper group is likely to leave for the Persian Gulf this week. [passage omitted]

A group of four minesweepers, a minesweeper support vessel and a supply ship will spend six months removing mines from the waters of the Persian Gulf, Defense Agency sources said.

The MSDF task force will use a U.S. Navy facility in Bahrain as its operation base as it hunts underwater mines that were scattered by the Iraqi Navy during the Persian Gulf crisis, sources said.

Following its arrival in the Gulf, the minesweeper group will coordinate operations with ships from the United States, Germany and other countries currently operating in the Gulf, the sources said.

Three of the four minesweepers will operate at any time, while one stands by at Bahrain for relief shifts, the sources said.

They said food, fuel and water, which will be obtained at Bahrain, will be ferried to the minesweepers by the supply ship.

MSDF Makes Preparations

OW2204033991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0123 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO - Preparations for the dispatch of a flotilla of Japanese minesweepers to the Persian Gulf drew nearer to completion Monday, Defense Agency sources said.

The Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF), assembling a task force of six vessels and 500 crew members, is awaiting the government's final go-ahead to give orders to sail for what will be its first mission overseas since World War II.

The cabinet will soon decide to dispatch the minesweepers to assist with the disarming of the mine-filled Gulf waters in the aftermath of the Gulf war, government sources said.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is scheduled to meet leaders of the opposition parties to seek their support for the dispatch, while cabinet approval is expected Wednesday or Thursday.

The mission will be led by the 2,000-ton minesweeper support ship Hayase, with a crew of 180 officers and sailors from the MSDF base in Kure, Hiroshima Prefecture, where the minesweeper team is gathering, government sources said.

The four minesweepers listed as likely to go include the Yurishima from the base at Sasebo in Nagasaki Prefecture, the Hikoshima from Kure, and the Awashima and Sakushima from the base at Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture. They range from 450 to 490 tons in size and each has a crew of 45.

The 8,150-ton supply ship Tokiwa from Yokosuka with its crew of 140 will fill out the mission.

The plan is for the flotilla to make port calls in the Philippines, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan on its 13,000-kilometer journey to the Persian Gulf. The voyage is expected to take about 30 to 40 days.

To assist in the mission, the task force is being equipped with the latest communications and navigation technology including equipment for Inmarsat, the international maritime satellite, and the Global Positioning System (GPS) of the U.S. Defense Department.

\$100 Million in Aid Planned for Kurdish Refugees

OW2004032091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT
20 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 20 KYODO—Japan plans to offer an additional 100 million dollars for the Kurdish refugees fleeing Iraq, Foreign Ministry sources said Saturday.

The sources said the government is studying the emergency assistance at the request of the office of the U.N. Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO).

The relief office also has asked other countries to donate money, saying 400 million dollars are urgently needed to help hundreds of thousands of Kurdish refugees.

The United States and the European Community have already decided to provide aid, the sources said.

Japan has so far given 10 million dollars to UNDRO in emergency relief funds for the Kurds.

The sources also said the government is preparing to send an emergency medical team to care for refugees.

USSR's Yakovlev Reviews Gorbachev-Kaifu Talks*OW2204014191 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1030 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Interview with Aleksandr Yakovlev, senior adviser to the USSR president, by newscaster Hatsuhsa Takashima and NHK Moscow Bureau Chief Kazuo Kobayashi; Yakovlev is in NHK Kyoto studio, Takashima and Kobayashi in NHK Tokyo studio—live; Yakovlev speaks in Russian with simultaneous Japanese translation superimposed; following from the Japanese; from special program: "A New Step in Japan-Soviet Relations—Gorbachev and Tokyo Talks Verified"]

[Excerpts] [Takashima] [Passage omitted] Participating in this program from the NHK Kyoto studio is Mr. Aleksandr Yakovlev, closest adviser to President Gorbachev who came to Japan as a senior member of the president's entourage and is now staying in Kyoto. Mr. Yakovlev is a central figure in promoting the policy of perestroika, or reform. Until late last year he had served as chairman of the preparatory committee for the visit to Japan by President Gorbachev. Although he was actually present at no more than one round of the summit talks, he is said to have managed all of President Gorbachev's statements and proposals throughout the talks.

Mr. Yakovlev, thank you very much for being with us today. I am going to ask you questions without haste from now, but I would like to ask you this question first: Do you think that President Gorbachev's visit to Japan was a success?

[Yakovlev] Yes. I think it came to a very successful conclusion. I think we succeeded in helping grow a tree. I think we helped grow the very tree which we had planted. All agreements are a product of compromises. I think that the talks held this time were a brilliant outcome that proves this very viewpoint. I personally am very much satisfied with the outcome of the talks. On my part, this is the third visit I pay to Japan. My first was when I was director of the World Economics and International Relations Institute. I made my second visit when I headed a delegation of the Supreme Soviet deputies. However, each time I felt very dissatisfied to find that Japanese-Soviet relations were not going well. In other words, no accords were reached and there always was a two-sidedness of views. This time, however, I think that we embarked on a very splendid, most appropriate road. I think that we embarked on a splendid road for developing Japan-Soviet relations in the days ahead.

[Takashima] Thank you. Later on, as this program progresses, we will hear from Mr. Yakovlev in more detail about what he means by an appropriate road. [Passage omitted]

[Takashima] I am addressing this question to Mr. Yakovlev who is at our Kyoto studio. Mr. Yakovlev, reporter Ishikawa has just filed a report suggesting that if President Gorbachev had visited Japan a little earlier, the Soviet side's reply concerning the territorial issue might have been different. What is your opinion? Is that conceivable?

[Yakovlev] No, that is strictly based on hypothesis. I personally know very well that the word if is not accepted in politics or history. Since I do not know what is behind the word if, I cannot speculate what would have happened either earlier or later than the presidential visit. Put simply, what people do does not necessarily conform to our speculation. Real things take place at places totally apart from us. This is a reality. Certainly it was very difficult for President Gorbachev to hold talks this time. To hold talks at this juncture was certainly a difficulty. I have been watching your program and I think you are reporting facts quite objectively. I think you are reporting on opinions and the present situation at home in the Soviet Union objectively. We cannot but acknowledge this present situation, nor can the president take it out of consideration.

As I pointed out earlier, an accord is strictly a product of a compromise. Let us take a look at a past precedent for territorial demarcation, for example. Let us recall the territorial demarcation between the United States and the Soviet Union. As regards the Bering Strait, the border was only recently demarcated. The borderline was demarcated only after a mutual trust had been established between our two countries. It was the same between the Soviet Union and Germany as well.

It was because our mutual trust, which had been impossible to build, was established that we could demarcate various borderlines. Take Germany, for example. It decided to provide economic assistance to the Soviet Union for the perestroika policy. But it is wrong to think that the assistance was linked to territories. German reunification was made possible by the perestroika policy. It was made possible because of the Soviet policy that guarantees that all countries have the right to freely choose their own courses, the right to freely choose their own political courses. The talks were certainly difficult. After his face-to-face talks with the Japanese prime minister, President Gorbachev whispered to me that the situation was not good. But, after another round of face-to-face summit talks the president said to me: The situation is making progress.

[Takashima] Thank you for your interesting and very meaningful remarks. Mr. Yakovlev, then Japan and the Soviet Union are supposed to hold upgraded and accelerated talks on a peace treaty, which includes the demarcation of territories. But, under the political situation in which President Gorbachev is placed at home in the Soviet Union, is it really possible for the Soviet side to make a political decision? Another question: What does the Soviet Union want from Japan?

[Yakovlev] I think that talks will be held on a peace treaty. Talks, I think, will be held in the context of a peace treaty. The present situation can hardly be termed normal. In other words, that a peace treaty has not yet been signed between our two countries, our two superpowers, many, many years after the end of the war is a very contradictory state. Personally I have always been shocked at this state. But I think that a giant first step was taken this time. I think it is a very rare thing in history, too. It is extremely

rare for territories or borders to be demarcated peacefully. That kind of issue was always accompanied by war. I believe that talks on a peace treaty will certainly be accelerated. Territorial demarcation will be discussed in the context of a peace treaty. I believe that a compromise of one kind or another will be made. I say this because the purpose of concluding a peace treaty is not for territorial demarcation only. If one thinks that way, I think it is too rash. I think it will be too rash a view of a peace treaty. Even though a peace treaty has certainly not been concluded, I think that our two countries are coexisting quite peacefully and amicably. I think that the relationship between our two countries has been friendly, but there is a dual meaning in this, a situation in which there is more than one meaning. But we hope to establish a mutual confidence through efforts by both sides and move toward a peace treaty keeping step with each other. As I have talked about this many times and as I made appeals about this on NHK Television on many occasions, only the process of establishing mutual confidence—in other words, meeting each other halfway—will help resolve all problems, all problems that followed World War II.

[Kobayashi] Mr. Yakovlev, I believe that, in order to resolve the issue, or to make a political decision, President Gorbachev should first stabilize the situation at home. Do you think that what he has achieved during his visit this time will contribute to stabilizing the domestic situation in the Soviet Union?

[Yakovlev] I think stability will rather affect the talks. This is a better way of saying it, I think. It is true that the domestic situation determines diplomatic policy. This applies to all countries. It is often said that diplomatic policy has its origin at home. Soviet foreign policy is no exception in that it often begins at home. The more stable a country is in its economic and political situation, the easier it is to resolve unresolved international issues. These issues include those of strategic and conventional arms. There are numerous issues that we are going to resolve, and a peace treaty with Japan should be considered as one of them.

[Takashima] Thank you very much. We will ask you more in fuller detail later. [passage omitted]

[Takashima] Mr. Yakovlev, as you saw in our report just now, I think that there is a difference of opinion between the United States and the Soviet Union regarding Asian and Pacific security. Do you think this hatchet can be buried?

[Yakovlev] The only way to tidy over this difference in opinion or approach is for both sides to think that war must not break out. I personally think that war should not be fought under these circumstances. I think military industry and the awareness of military personnel should be sanctified. Keeping in mind that war must not break out, I think their awareness should be sanctified. If this is done, it will be easy to resolve other issues, I think. The Soviet side is ready for disarmament. It is clear that the Soviet Navy is far weaker than the U.S. Navy in the Far East. Even Mr. Gorbachev acknowledges this. Nevertheless, we

are thinking of reducing our naval forces. Americans are basing themselves on this view, because their side is stronger in naval forces in the Far East. But, we have rejected the Cold War and liquidated confrontation. I think this will contribute a great deal to this era. I believe that Japan and other countries hold the view that arms should be reduced.

[Takashima] But, many countries, including the United States, harbor the fear that the military is gaining force in the Soviet Union again and that the Soviet Union might eventually proceed in a direction which is not that of disarmament. What do you think about this?

[Yakovlev] My personal view is that Soviet military personnel are neither better nor worse than their counterparts in other countries. I personally do not want to raise the issue with the Soviet military gaining greater strength. I want to view it in a different light. In other words, military personnel have more things to worry about. This is a frank view. The Soviet forces are in the process of withdrawing from Eastern Europe. They are withdrawing from many countries—Poland and former East Germany. Then, officers and men must find some place to live at home. They have to send their children to kindergartens or schools. But, there are absolutely no arrangements being made to receive them. Therefore, military personnel are not doing well in their social life and this breeds dissatisfaction. They then become more assertive. We must examine this situation more carefully. In other words, we must see to it that the social status and living conditions of military personnel are improved. When this question is settled, I think other questions will also be resolved in a easier way. But, I think the strengthening of political influence is not the correct direction. There certainly are so-called rightists and militarists in the Soviet Union. There also are people who do not like the disarmament policy or those who do not like the weakening of military tension. These people feel their livelihood at risk. They certainly do not want war, but they live according to their military status.

[Takashima, interrupting] Mr. Yakovelev, thank you very much for your frank remarks. Now let me get in touch with the studio. [passage omitted] Now, we understand that when he returns home, Mr. Yakovlev will be director of a yet to be founded Japan Study Center. In other words, he will be playing an increasingly greater role in Soviet relations with Japan. Could you tell us briefly what you think of current Soviet policy toward Japan?

[Yakovlev] Prior to answering the question, I would first like to comment on U.S. researchers' opinions, which were introduced a little while ago in the program. The U.S. researchers noted that the Soviet Union's influence on the international community has been lessened. They also said that the Soviet Union now tends to adopt prudent policies, and has become a less important country. I object to the viewpoint, because it is quite similar to that of ultraconservatives in the Soviet Union. Soviet ultraconservatives say that Gorbachev is changing the Soviet Union into a

minor power, but such an opinion goes against perestroika. Perestroika is important, not only for the Soviet Union, but also for Western countries.

Second, I would like to answer Mr. Takashima's question. In fact, I shall be inaugurated as the director of the Modern Japan Study Institute. We are currently studying how the new institute should be organized and how duties should be designed. I have been taking the view that Japanese-Soviet relations should be further promoted. I shall make every exertion to develop bilateral relations.

[Takashima] Thank you very much for joining us tonight.

Yakovlev Addresses Press Institute in Kyoto

*OW2204131291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1241 GMT
22 Apr 91*

[Text] Kyoto, April 22 KYODO—Aleksander Yakovlev, adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, said Monday he expects a stronger Soviet Union to emerge in the future based on the nine republics that voted to maintain the union.

"I feel this new union will be much more solid ... because it will not be based on force, but on voluntary consent," Yakovlev said in a speech at the International Press Institute's annual conference in Kyoto.

Yakovlev acknowledged that the Soviet Union faces serious difficulties because of declining production, a faltering work ethic, and rising social tensions.

But he said he would not define the Soviet Union as "falling apart" because the nine republics that voted in favor of sticking with the union hold 90 percent of the population as well as much of its industrial production.

The six republics that did not participate in the March referendum on the future of the Soviet Union—Lithuania, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Moldavia, and Armenia—would not necessarily withdraw, he said.

Yakovlev criticized liberals who favor faster perestroika reforms for calling on embattled Gorbachev to step down.

"The resignation of the president could only serve the interests of the rightists," he said.

He warned that Gorbachev's departure is likely to cause a backlash to former times led by conservatives who embrace a "false faith in ideals."

Hardline Soviet leaders also are calling for Gorbachev's removal, blaming him for the woes of the nation.

Yakovlev urged the audience of 400 editors and publishers to understand the Soviet habit of seeking out a scapegoat to blame when something goes wrong.

Describing himself as an optimist, Yakovlev said he did not believe the conservatives would win.

"I believe we will be able to overcome the ultraconservative forces, and you will see this very soon," he said.

He did not explain how this might be accomplished.

Business Leaders Disappointed With USSR Talks

*OW1904141891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1352 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japanese business leaders expressed disappointment Friday with the results of talks between Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Tokyo from Tuesday to Thursday on the Northern Territories.

Rokuro Ishikawa, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Takashi Ishihara, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, said no large-scale economic cooperation can be extended to the Soviet Union until a peace treaty resolving the territorial issue is concluded.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations, agreed.

Ishihara called the results of the Kaifu-Gorbachev talks "a setback from the Japan-Soviet joint declaration of 1956," in which the Soviets promised to return the Habomais and Shikotan—the smaller two of the four Soviet-held islands—to Japan.

However, Ishikawa saw the talks as the first step in a possible future settlement of the issue.

Hiraiwa said the talks provided a chance to start anew on the territorial issue, though it is not clear what result may emerge.

The business leaders said the call for "balanced expansion of the two countries' relations" in the Kaifu-Gorbachev communique could be interpreted as representing a change in the Japanese Government's position that "political and economic matters are inseparable" in dealings with the Soviet Union.

Kaifu's Upcoming ASEAN Tour Previewed

*OW2004084991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0840 GMT
20 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 20 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will pledge Japan's active contribution to establishing a "new world order" during his tour of five Southeast Asian countries beginning later this month, government sources said Saturday.

They said Kaifu will make the pledge in a May 3 speech in Singapore, the fourth country on his 10-day itinerary.

Kaifu is scheduled to leave Tokyo on April 27 on a tour of five member states of the six-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines.

He will also express deep regret over Japan's wartime aggression against Asian nations and declare his country will never again be a military power, the sources said.

The remark is aimed at dispelling fears among Asian countries over Japan's steady military buildup.

The prime minister will emphasize the importance of a more mature partnership between Japan and the ASEAN

countries for peace and stability in Asia, and reiterate Japan's cooperation in trying to restore peace in Cambodia, they said.

He will also pledge continued economic cooperation with the region and efforts to build confidence with Vietnam and other Indochinese nations on the basis of mutual trust, they said.

Kaifu will stress Japan's offer of active cooperation with the United Nations, not only with money but personnel, to help build a new world order in the wake of the Persian Gulf war, the sources said.

He will be the sixth Japanese prime minister to deliver a policy speech during an ASEAN tour. Former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda was the first in 1977.

Citing developments in Cambodia and on the Korean peninsula, and the first Japan-Soviet summit in Tokyo this week, Kaifu intends to note with pleasure the international situation is improving, the sources said.

They said Kaifu will also refer to Japan's new policy of considering a recipient nation's military spending before providing official development aid.

Government Plans Proposal on Import Restrictions

*OW2204134791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT
22 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The government, hoping to avert complete liberalization of Japan's rice market, is planning a joint proposal with some other countries that would allow more restrictions on farm imports under an article of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), sources at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries said Monday.

Tokyo, arguing that it needs to maintain "food security" through self-sufficiency in the staple [words indistinct] has been seeking to retain its virtual ban on rice imports.

But the perception is spreading among government officials and members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party that this argument is losing its effectiveness, making partial opening of the market inevitable.

The proposal on the GATT article is an attempt to avert a complete lifting of the rice ban even if Japan is forced to open the market partially.

Japan, as part of a joint proposal with the European Community, Canada, and several other countries, will propose the "clarification" of part of GATT Article XI, the sources said.

While GATT has a general ban on import restrictions other than duties, taxes, and other charges, the article makes an exception for import restrictions on farm products under a government's production control.

The key point of Japan's proposal is to define "governmental measures which operate to restrict the quantities" of a domestic farm product as including restrictions on land used to produce a product, such as Japan's controls on the area of rice paddies.

Japan also wants to make clear to what extent the government must actually enforce such restrictions for GATT to allow import curbs on the product.

Another key point in the proposal is to specify that the provision covers not only fresh farm products but also processed products, such as dairy products and starch. Tokyo wants to keep its import curbs on these products as well.

The EC and Canada support the inclusion of Japan's idea in their joint proposal, but they do not agree on all the other elements involved, making it uncertain when the joint proposal will be made to GATT, the sources said.

OECD Secretary General Arrives for Visit

Meets With Nakayama

*OW2204063691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0556 GMT
22 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—The secretary general of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama agreed Monday to continue efforts to bring the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations to a conclusion by the end of the year.

The accord came when Jean-Claude Paye called on Nakayama at the Foreign Ministry here ahead of the Ministerial Council meeting of the 24-nation OECD in June, ministry officials said.

At the half-hour talks, they discussed, besides the Uruguay Round, recent economic trends in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and the United States, the officials said.

On the multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Nakayama said Japan will "continue efforts and cooperation with other nations to bring the talks to a conclusion by the end of the year," the officials said.

Paye agreed, and pointed out the importance of securing capital flows from industrialized to developing nations, they said.

Referring to the economic outlook for the OECD nations, he said industrialized economies will head for recovery in the second half of 1991, ministry officials said.

Paye arrived here Sunday. During his stay until Wednesday, he will also exchange views with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao, and Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Motoji Kondo.

Meets Minister on Rice Issue

*OW2204090691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT
22 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Motoji Kondo, minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, met Monday with the head of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to seek understanding for Japan's restrictive policy on rice imports.

Japan virtually bans rice imports and the United States has been demanding access to its market.

Officials said Kondo and Jean-Claude Paye, OECD secretary general, discussed pending issues of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

Paye told Kondo most countries need to make some contribution in order to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion. He then asked Kondo for his views regarding Japan's approach to resolving the rice issue.

Kondo replied that the negotiations would require some countries to change their long-standing policies, which would involve difficult domestic issues, officials said.

Japan's policy of self-sufficiency in rice is intertwined with domestic horticulture and stock breeding, Kondo said, adding that changes "would cause serious problems."

Paye arrived here Sunday for a four-day visit to Japan.

Keidanren Chief Supports Rice Market Opening

OW2204101091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0752 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Gaishi Hiraiwa, the head of Japan's powerful business lobby Keidanren, Monday reiterated his support for phased opening of the country's heavily protected rice market.

Speaking at a press conference, the chairman of the federation of economic organizations said, "I favor gradual opening of the rice market, after a certain period which enables the Japanese farm industry to prepare themselves."

Apparently anxious about mounting frustration in the U.S. over the rice issue, business groups have been increasingly vocal in their support for lifting the ban on rice imports.

"We are just waiting for a final decision by Prime Minister (Toshiki Kaifu)," he said.

Hiraiwa also said the world's seven biggest economies may discuss the rice issue at their London meeting in July, in an attempt to resuscitate the deadlocked Uruguay Round global trade talks. Disagreements on farm trade have stalled the talks.

The Keidanren chief was also opposed to a hasty cut in the official discount rate, dampening the hopes of some business people for lower interest rates.

"The economy is generally still strong enough," to withstand the current lofty interest rates, he said.

Rice Products Imports Decline 5% in 1990

OW1904125991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1047 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Imports of pilaf, prepared rice flour, and other processed rice products declined for the first time ever in 1990, falling 5 percent from the year before to 34,700 tons, the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry said Friday.

Imports of such products had posted double-digit growth in recent years.

The dramatic turnaround was due to the lower value of the yen and the inability of the government to secure products made with high-quality rice, the ministry said.

Imports of rice crackers and other rice confectioneries, which are little affected by exchange rate fluctuations, continued to rise.

Producers of glutinous rice, competing hard for market share, are being pressured to reduce their prices, amid persistent demand for lower-priced rice.

Rice products made from a mixture of rice flour and sugar and used mainly for dumplings and other popular Japanese confectioneries account for 60 percent of imports of processed rice goods.

These products, which surged 32 percent in 1989, were down 7.3 percent last year to 20,500 tons.

The ministry claims that its imports of processed rice products and rice for brandy should be included in its overall imports of rice and that its alleged refusal to import any rice is in fact not a reflection of actual conditions.

Imports of processed rice products are being watched carefully in connection with the furor between Washington and Tokyo over the liberalization of Japan's rice market.

Nakayama Says Response to Crisis 'Insufficient'

OW2204094391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0931 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told a U.N. official here Monday that Japan's ability to respond to international humanitarian crisis is insufficient and that it should search for a suitable "model" overseas, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The officials said Nakayama made the remark in a 15-minute meeting with U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] Sadako Ogata.

Ogata, asked by Nakayama what countries might serve as acceptable models, suggested Japan study government procedures in Scandinavian countries, they said.

The U.N. official, who arrived in Japan after a mission to assess the needs of Kurdish and other Iraqi refugees in Iran and Turkey, asked that the UNHCR be given its own airplane to facilitate its activities, the officials said.

In the case of Africa, she said, some 75 percent of funds made available to UNHCR for refugee assistance are eaten up by transport costs. She noted that her Middle East activities were facilitated by a Norwegian Government plane.

Ogata said the number of refugees fleeing Iraq is increasing daily, so more money is needed to feed and clothe them. Tents and blankets are in especially short supply, she said.

Iran has opened its borders, but there are long lines of refugees on the Iraqi side waiting to get in, the U.N. official said.

Refugees trying to flee into Turkey face not only natural barriers, but the Turkish Government's policy of discouraging their entry, she said, adding that many refugees are suffering in the cold and barren mountains on the Iraqi side of the Turkish border.

Ogata said a Japanese presence can now be seen in refugee relief operations in Iran. The Japanese Government has sent several people there as part of an emergency relief team, while private volunteers are also at work.

Nakayama was quoted as saying the government wants to do what it can in the way of further financial aid to the UNHCR's Middle East efforts. He said consultations on the issue are under way between the foreign and finance ministries.

Ogata said she hopes the assistance will be expedited and asked that Japan not forget the plight of African refugees, officials said.

Defense Agency 'Unclear' on Ikeda's U.S. Agenda

OW2104081591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0756 GMT
21 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—With the visit by Japan's top defense official to the United States just days away, the Defense Agency remains unclear how to put more flesh into its agenda.

Defense Agency Director General Yukihiro Ikeda is scheduled to visit Washington from April 29 and hold talks with Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney and hopefully meet with President George Bush, Secretary of State James Baker, and congressional leaders.

His six-day visit to the U.S. is the first by a Japanese defense chief since December 1988. Ikeda will also visit Canada on April 28 before traveling to Washington.

Although the Defense Agency hopes the trip will underscore the close cooperation between Japan and the U.S. on defense, the defense talks lack a major focal point.

U.S. disappointment with Japan's performance during the Persian Gulf war will also make Ikeda's trip more difficult.

An agency source said Japan is limited in what it can do after the end of the Gulf war except for sending mine-sweepers to remove mines planted by Iraq in the Gulf.

If the government officially decides to send minesweepers and Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu dispatches them before Ikeda's visit to the U.S., it will be a good subject for the defense talks, the source said.

In the absence of a major topic, Ikeda's scheduled two rounds of talks with Cheney are expected to center on generalities.

Ikeda may reaffirm Japan's readiness to promote military cooperation with the United States.

Another topic could be the Soviet proposal on security in the Asian-Pacific. Other possible topics on the agenda include such issues as North Korea's nuclear development and inspection, and the Cambodian dispute.

Former Prime Minister Takeshita Leaves for U.S.

OW2204063791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0447 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 22 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita left Monday for a six-day visit to the United States during which he will attend an inaugural meeting of the G-7 council.

Takeshita is scheduled to meet U.S. President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker on Thursday. He last met Bush 13 months ago in Washington.

The council is made up of former finance ministers and central bank governors of members of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations.

Former ministers and central bank governors including Takeshita decided to set up the council to act in an advisory role to nations belonging to the group—the U.S., Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada.

Takeshita also hopes to hold frank discussions with Bush to help mend Washington-Tokyo relations strained since the Persian Gulf War, his aides said.

Ministry Sources on Emergency Aid to India

OW1904131991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japan will lend a helpful hand to India, starved for cash because of the Persian Gulf crisis, Finance Ministry sources said Friday, but they left the amount and timing of the aid unclear.

"If we just sit on our hands, India might become a huge debtor country," a ministry official said, adding the ministry is considering commodity loans and co-financing with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to help New Delhi.

India has been asking Japan for 1 billion dollars to help it through the immediate foreign exchange crisis resulting from lost trade, rising fuel bills, and remittance losses related to the Gulf turmoil.

"We understand the need for financial aid to India," the official said. "But the problem is too big for Japan to handle on its own."

Emergency lending to India, Bangladesh, and other countries badly hit by the Gulf crisis will be a major topic at the spring meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Washington at the end of the month, the sources said.

Earlier this month, India's caretaker Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha visited Japan to seek bridge funding to stave off a default on debt repayments, something the country has never done.

The Gulf war cost India 3.5 billion dollars to 4.0 billion dollars at a time when the country's foreign exchange reserves were already dwindling at a perilous pace.

Such reserves now stand at about 2.0 billion dollars, or barely enough for one month's imports.

But multilateral financial agencies and major donor nations are unwilling to commit further aid, with the formation of an Indian budget delayed until after general elections in May by the resignation of the administration of Chandra Shekar.

Japan's readiness to consider new aid came on the heels of the Indian Government's decision to end the blacklisting of five Japanese companies accused of paying illegal kick-backs to win an oil pipeline contract.

The Tokyo government has said it would not provide new aid until all Japanese companies are allowed to bid for future Indian contracts.

Final Round of Unified Local Elections Held

OW2104/42091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1348 GMT 21 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima won a cliffhanger race for his fourth four-year term in office and the nation got its first woman mayor in the final round of unified local elections around the country on Sunday.

The incumbent 69-year-old Motoshima, supported by the Social Democratic Party, Komeito and other opposition parties, defeated the nearest rival Masakazu Miyagawa who had the backing of the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Democratic Socialist Party.

Unlike national elections, most local races in Japan feature politicians campaigning as independents with multiparty support.

In previous elections, Motoshima had the support of the LDP, but the party announced last year it would withdraw its support in the wake of his statement to the Nagasaki City Assembly in December 1988 that the late Emperor Showa held some responsibility for World War II.

The mayor's statement, coming shortly before the death of the emperor, caused a controversy at the time and attracted the ire of rightist-nationalist groups.

In January last year, Kazumi Tajiri, a member of the ultrarightist group Seiki Juku, shot Motoshima in broad daylight outside Nagasaki City hall. Tajiri was later sentenced to 12 years in prison for attempting to kill the mayor.

Japan's first woman mayor is the independent conservative candidate and lawyer Harue Kitamura in Ashiya, Hyogo Prefecture, in western Japan.

It was the 62-year-old Kitamura's first bid for the post. She defeated LDP-backed incumbent Koroku Yamamura, 69.

Kitamura campaigned for improved environmental protection and increased spending on education.

At stake in Sunday's elections were the mayoral posts of 85 cities and 437 townships and villages as well as 1,405 seats in prefectural, city, town and village assemblies.

Returns for the mayoral elections in 110 cities and 15 wards in Tokyo and in Tsushima in Okayama Prefecture, as well as the 23 ward assembly races in the capital, are to be tabulated Monday.

Sunday was the final round in a series of local elections in various parts of Japan this month. The first round, which included voting for 13 gubernatorial posts and 44 prefectural assemblies, took place April 7.

The elections were the last scheduled formal opportunity this year for the governing and opposition parties to test their relative strengths and their popularity with the voters.

MITI Orders Inspection of Nuclear Reactor

OW2204092191 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 17 Apr 91

[Text] The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] ordered Kansai Electric Power Company to immediately identify an extraneous piece of metal found in the bottom of the No. 2 reactor at the Oi Nuclear Plant, the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy [ANRE] under MITI announced today.

According to the ANRE, the No. 2 reactor at the Oi Nuclear Plant in Oi Town, Fukui Prefecture has suspended operations since 25 March for a routine inspection. During the inspection, however, a tester camera found some extraneous matter at the bottom of the reactor. Kansai Electric Power collected the material today and investigated where it came from. The firm found that the circle-shaped matter was made of metal with a size of 1.5 cm by 2.5 cm by 1.5 cm, which looks like a finger screw.

MITI ordered Kansai Electric Power to identify immediately the piece of metal. It is anticipated that the piece of metal could be a part used for control rod guide pipes located above the fuel rods.

While the piece is too big to fall through the space between fuel rods, MITI is also concerned that the piece of metal might have damaged outer fuel rods. MITI therefore plans to order further inspections of fuel rods as necessary.

North Korea

Letter 'Sent Over Radio' to South Group

SK2004053591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 20 Apr 91

[“Letter to Chairman of ‘Chonmong’ of South Korea Sent Over Radio”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 20 (KCNA)—The chairman of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea today sent over radio a letter to the chairman of the “National Federation of Peasants Organizations” (Chonmong) of South Korea after the South Korean authorities refused to take over and deliver the letter.

Noting that the first anniversary of the formation of "Chonnon" is being significantly celebrated in South Korea, the letter says:

With the formation of this organization, the South Korean peasants have been able to develop onto a new stage the struggle for the improvement of their socio-economic conditions and the achievement of democracy and civil rights, closely rallied behind the democratic peasant organization which genuinely defends their national rights for the first time in history.

It is a most urgent common task for our nation to put an end to the division of the country and reunify the country independently and peacefully.

As important members of the nation, the peasants in the North and the South should take the lead in the patriotic cause of terminating the tragic division and reunifying the country peacefully.

To this end, the peasants of the North and the South should meet and have a dialogue as soon as possible and jointly seek the way of promoting national reconciliation and unity and accelerating the reunification of the country.

I courteously propose to you once again that the Central Committee of our union of agricultural working people and the "Chonnon" of South Korea have contact of delegates as soon as possible.

At the contact, the delegates of the sides may open-heartedly discuss the matter of finding the nation's common way of reunification and all other matters for promoting the reunification of the country as well as the matter of realizing cooperation between the peasants of the North and the South.

The sooner our contact, the better in view of the demand of the situation. We leave it to your side to designate the venue of contact.

We believe that when we meet each other, it will greatly contribute to strengthening the unity and bonds between the peasants of the North and the South and to achieving peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

We wait for your quick, affirmative reply to our proposal.

South's 'Anti-Reunification Nature' Viewed

*SK2104023291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1511 GMT 20 Apr 91*

["True Color of South Korean Authorities' 'Unified Channel of Dialogue' Motto Laid Bare"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 20 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland today issued a memorandum indicting the anti-reunification nature of the South Korean authorities' argument for "unified channel of dialogue."

The memorandum says:

The South Korean authorities conceived the "Policy of Unified Channel of Dialogue" in May 1988 with a sinister intention to block the independent contacts and dialogues

between nongovernmental organizations and personages of the North and the South, bring the dialogue under their own control, abuse it for the purpose of division and find pretexts for repressing the pro-reunification patriots of South Korea.

Under the motto of "Unified Channel of Dialogue", the South Korean authorities block the independent dialogue between nongovernmental personages on the one hand and, on the other, desperately work to freeze and legitimate the division of the country at the inter-authorities dialogues.

At the North-South high-level talks, they avoid discussing the removal of the political and military confrontation which is of fundamental importance for reunification, and maintain their wrong position to legitimate "two Koreas" and shelve the reunification of the country for an indefinite period, insisting on "recognition of the entities."

The "unification minister" of South Korea revealed their ulterior intention when he told the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of the National Assembly that "the inter-Korean high-level talks are very important talks in making the North and the South recognise each other's entities and establishing a system of peaceful co-existence." (South Korean "Radio No. 1", August 21, 1990)

The South Korean authorities devised the "special law on North-South exchanges and cooperation" on February 11, 1989 and promulgated it as a "presidential decree" in June 1989.

According to the law, the South Koreans should get "permission" of the "Unification Minister" if they are to visit the northern half of the country, contact or correspond with Northerners. Overseas South Koreans should report to the "diplomatic" or "consular" office in the relevant country in advance or factum.

It is also stipulated that the economic exchanges between the North and the South can be made only by those who get special permission or those designated by the "Minister of Commerce and Industry" if necessary.

The South Korean authorities framed up the "Committee for the Promotion of North-South Exchange and Cooperation," the "Committee for the Promotion of North-South Student Exchange," the "Council for North-South Cultural Exchange" and many other "government"-controlled organizations and oblige the nongovernmental organizations to reach agreement with these organizations before contacting the North, thus binding the hand and foot doubly and trebly.

Although the South side's promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally (PNR) applied to the authorities for "permission" in March and April 1989 for preliminary talks of the PNR and asked them to permit their contact with the North in June, July and August 1990 to participate in a preliminary contact for the PNR, the South Korean authorities unreasonably turned down the application each time.

Last year, they turned down the application of the Party for Peace and Democracy for the dispatch of its delegation to Pyongyang and refused to "allow" Pak Ki-wan, permanent advisor to the popular party (tentative name at that time), to visit Pyongyang.

Moreover, the South Korean rulers refused to take over and deliver letters and telephone messages of nongovernmental organizations of our side to their South Korean counterparts proposing dialogue and contact.

This year alone, the South Korean authorities have refused to turn over many letters including the letters dated March 6 of the chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the general federation of trade unions of Korea, the chairman of the C.C., the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea and the chairman of the Korean Students Committee to the acting chairman of the "National Council of Trade Unions" and the chairmen of the "National Federation of Peasants Associations," the "National Council of Student Representatives" and the "National Council of Representatives of Youth Organizations" of South Korea.

This clearly shows that they stoop to any infamy to block independent contact and dialogue between nongovernmental organizations and personages of the North and the South.

The South Korean authorities use the self-justified "policy of unified channel of dialogue" for viciously repressing the reunification movement and the pro-reunification patriots in South Korea.

They blocked at the point of the bayonet preliminary talks for the convocation of the pan-national rally which had been put on the order of the day after being initiated by pro-reunification patriotic, democratic organizations of South Korea and supported by the North.

They posted 16,000 armed police on the road to Panmunjom to block the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters and students from coming to Panmunjom for the August 15 pan-national rally last year, and mobilized 60,000 police to foil the June 10, 1988 student talks after issuing "maximum emergency duty order" on top of "intensified guard order."

At the time of the abortive August 15, 1988 student talks, they mobilized 140,000 police and arrested 8,000 students including Kim Chung-ki of Seoul National University, head of the South side's delegation to the North-South student talks and head of the student unification vanguard group, and inflicted heavy or light wounds on hundreds of students. (South Korean "Radio No. 1", August 15, 1988)

They arrested, jailed and penalized Yim Su-kyong, Mun Kyu-hyon and other pro-reunification patriots who visited Pyongyang or contacted with us to discuss the reunification issue by invoking the notorious anti-reunification "National Security Law" for the mere reason that they had not got "permission" of the authorities.

The South Korean rulers jailed the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan for a year and half after he had been to the North to discuss the reunification issue and have constantly watched him and

obstructed his activities in every way, "blacklisting" him since they released him in October 1990, "suspending the execution of the sentence".

They not only jailed and penalized Yim Su-kyong and the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally, Cho Yong-sul, Yi Hae-hak and Cho Song-u, who had participated in the Berlin tripartite talks of the "pan-Korean alliance for national reunification" for their contact with us but also try hard to dissolve the pro-reunification patriotic organizations including the "National Council of Student Representatives" and the "Coalition for National Democratic Movement" to which they belong, by branding them as "organizations benefiting the enemy."

The outrages of the South Korean authorities show that the "unified channel of dialogue" is not only part of their anti-dialogue, anti-reunification policy for monopolizing the dialogue and blocking the independent contact and dialogue between nongovernmental personages but also a crafty and vicious fascist repressive policy for stifling the pro-reunification forces of South Korea.

Paper Denounces U.S. Stand on South's Security

*SK2204125191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1039 GMT 22 Apr 91*

[*"True Color of Aggressor Under 'Security' Mask"—KCNA headline*]

[Text] Pyongyang April 22 (KCNA)—The U.S. ruling circles have never let a chance pass by without contending that the security of the United States is "directly linked" with South Korea's, for the purpose of covering up their policy of aggression and war, ignoring the strong protest of the Korean people and the world public calling for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and their nuclear weapons from South Korea, a NODONG SINMUN news analyst Sunday says, and continues:

The U.S. imperialists regard "security" as an aggressive link in the chain of their Asia-Pacific strategy; the claim that as a "Pacific nation" and an "Asian nation," the United States is directly responsible for the "security" of this region.

This is an expression of the U.S. imperialists' brigandish mode of thinking shamelessly seeking world supremacy.

There is no reasonable ground to argue that South Korea's "security" is directly linked with the United States'.

South Korea and the United States are far away from each other geographically.

It is a far-fetched argument to say that South Korea and the United States are linked directly with each other as regards "security".

The Korean war unleashed by the U.S. imperialists was a war of aggression which virtually had nothing to do with the security of the United States.

The U.S. imperialists are now kicking up a nuclear row in South Korea to create a grave danger of a war on the Korean peninsula. But it is not because of any threat to the United States.

This notwithstanding, the U.S. imperialists claim that South Korea is a "vital region" for the United States and its "security" is a "key" to defence of the U.S. interests.

In a bid to give authenticity to this lie, the U.S. imperialists are raising a hue and cry over "threat from the North" on the Korean peninsula and the North's "capability of developing nuclear weapons".

As unbiased public opinion says, the threat of aggression, in actuality, comes from the South.

The U.S. forces in South Korea, armed with more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons and sophisticated weapons of destruction and all the puppet army are in a combat posture and the Pacific-based U.S. units of the three services are massed in and around South Korea.

Under this situation, military exercises are staged against our Republic almost every day.

The reality eloquently proves where the danger of war comes from on the Korean peninsula.

South Korea's "security" cried for by the U.S. imperialists is, in the final analysis, a war ballad.

SKNDF Statement on ROK-USSR Talks

*SK2204031091 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 2100 GMT 21 Apr 91*

[Text of statement by the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (SKNDF) on 21 April—read by announcer]

[Text] In defiance of our masses' strong protest and denunciation, the persons in authorities of the ROK [Hanguk] and Soviet Union on 20 April held talks on Cheju, a secluded island.

The talks, called the ROK-Soviet Union summit, discussed the reunification of the Korean peninsula, North-South relations, expanding ROK-USSR relations, and promoting cooperation in the Asian and Pacific region. The so-called results of the talks also were announced.

Acting as if it has come into unexpected fortune, the No Tae-u group is propagandizing that it agreed on something, reached unanimity of opinion, and so forth during the talks. However, this is simply the deceitful and ridiculous propaganda of a brazen-faced fellow.

From the outset, these talks are a result of rough-and-ready diplomacy—unprecedented in the history of international diplomacy—which was realized between Chongwadae and the Kremlin by each pulling and being pulled with dollars, by one claiming that someone is coming to visit the other, and by attempting to read each other's minds.

They met each other—being mutual hanky-panky partners—outside the house, being unable to meet inside, although they claimed they were summit leaders, thus

staging an ugly play. Even the time of their meeting flustered them, as it was announced as this in the morning and that in the evening.

It is clear that such a meeting, which was held amid confusion, cannot be the talks for the nation nor can it bring a result beneficial to the people.

This notwithstanding, No Tae-u is exultant as if he has caught a star in the sky by merely taking a glance at a tired, weary traveler who was simply passing by. We must say that No Tae-u's state is indeed pitiful.

None of the people on this land would lend an ear to the remarks of the No Tae-u group, which simply creates disorder for broadcasting and newspapers with nonsensical self-admiration and self-praise.

The recent talks in Cheju Island were a criminal bargaining, which again clearly showed the flunkeyist antinational nature of the No Tae-u group which is attempting to perpetuate division of the nation by making domestic issues of the nation as a sacrificial offering for political collusion with outside forces and to achieve the reunification by prevailing over communism.

Our masses cannot repress indignation and curse the fact that an important issue related to our nation's life or death is being ridiculed by the No Tae-u group in collusion with outside forces.

The North repeatedly put forward proposals for a broad range of dialogue including the high-level talks with the national will to resolve the issue of national reunification independently and by pooling together the strength between the North and the South. The North has made all unselfish efforts to realize them.

However, the treacherous No Tae-u group, which refused all peaceful and reunification-oriented proposals of the North, again committed a great indelible crime before the nation by conspiring and colluding with outside forces and turning its back on fellow countrymen.

The No Tae-u group is attempting to finally realize its vicious separatist line by begging outside forces while responding to the proposal for negotiations by the North with its exercise of a northward war of aggression. The No Tae-u group's treacherous and shameful flunkeyist act cannot be justified by anything.

Trying to invite foreign forces to interfere in the nation's internal affairs which should be solved through independent will of and consultations between the North and the South and, furthermore, attempting to force two Koreas upon our nation, relying on the strength of foreign forces, is an open provocation and a breach of faith against 70 million brethren who urgently desire independent and peaceful reunification.

Speaking of the fact that No Tae-u this time took up the separate entry into the United Nations as a key issue in the talks and begged the Soviet Union for cooperation, such an act cannot but be a brazen-faced act of the traitor who is never interested in the nation's interests and dignity. Why on earth does he beg a foreign force for cooperation on the

issue of entry into the United Nations, an issue which can be solved through consultations between the North and the South, without caring what others will think of it? Why on earth does he bring outside the issue which is being discussed in the country and beg others to stand up for it?

This dirty mendicant diplomacy is precisely a grave act of national division which inspires antagonism and confrontation by exciting the North, not an act which serves to achieve contact between the North and the South and unity of the nation. No Tae-u goes so far as to advertise, without hesitation, the ROK-Soviet talks this time, raving that the talks contributed to maintaining peace and security on the Korean peninsula. However, this is nothing but a brigandish sophistry which reverses black and white.

No Tae-u is essentially not only a vicious pro-U.S. stooge whose destiny relies on the implementation of the U.S. policy of war of aggression, but is also a perpetrator for the United States for war. That No Tae-u, who is nothing but a servant of war for the United States, babbled about peace itself is indeed preposterous and is an unbearable insult to peace. Does the No Tae-u ring—which has entrusted the ROK to the United States as its forward nuclear base and which has rejected all peace proposals of the North thus far—have any justification whatsoever to talk about cessation of the cold war and liquidation of the danger of war on the Korean peninsula?

As to the fact that in the talks this time No Tae-u begged for the Soviet Union's cooperation in having the North accept and sign a nuclear safeguard agreement, we cannot but be surprised at his brazen-faced nature once again. The act of No Tae-u—who while closing his eyes to the nuclear weapons deployed throughout South Korea, which reach more than 1,000, begged the Soviet Union to provide cooperation in having the North, which has no nuclear weapon, accept the nuclear inspection of an international organization—only reminds us of the unseemly behavior of a thief who is on pins and needles for fear of being arrested.

If the No Tae-u ring really wants peace on the Korean peninsula and cessation of the cold war there, it should have, before talking about the North's signing of a nuclear safeguards agreement, discussed the issue on inspecting the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and withdrawing them.

In the talks this time No Tae-u attempted to force the North to realize what they call reform and openness on the strength of the person in authority [tanggukcha] of the Soviet Union. No Tae-u and stooges who have contracted the vicious habit of flunkeyism and relying on foreign forces seem to believe that such an attempt can get it across in the North, too. Dreaming to have a big country exercise its influence over the North is indeed foolish, and moreover, the ambition for reunifying the country by defeating communism is a false dream.

The recently held South Korean-Soviet talks are criminal talks of treachery and betrayal [panyokkwa paesinui pomjoe hoedamida] running counter to the ardent desire for peace and aspiration for reunification of our nation in

every respect. The SKNDF, with the masses of all strata, strongly condemns and denounces the antinational crime of the traitorous flunkeyist No Tae-u group which shamelessly and disgracefully bargained with foreign forces the important issue connected with the fate of our nation itself and schemed for perpetual national division. We the South Korean masses are well aware of the dilemma of traitor No Tae-u in which he was compelled to hold talks with the person in authority of the Soviet Union who was on his way home from his visit to Japan, bringing him, begging and imploring, to a remote island on South Korean soil. With this rough-and-ready diplomacy, they are scheming to win popularity, catch their breath, and sustain the fascist power which is shaking at its very foundation. However, even if they manage to bring them again to the heart of Seoul rather than Cheju Island, they will never escape from their doomed fate in which they have already been driven to the edge of a thousand-fathom precipice.

We the masses also take pity on the plight of those who have to keep company with the group like traitor No Tae-u which is in despair. The South Korean revolutionaries are indignant and scornful at the filthy features of those who sell out politics, ideology, and fidelity, dazzled by the dollars, mistaking mammonism for the trend of the times. The talks in Cheju Island represent the circumstance in which fellow sufferers sympathize with each other. Will it become an analgesic relieving pain if those who are suffering from a chronic disease from the affairs of their home console each other outside?

None of us—the masses—will acknowledge the result of the talks which the No Tae-u ring, which has been forsaken by all the nation and which is the target of the spite and hatred of the people, held with the Soviet Union; it will remain a stain of shame in our national history.

We the masses clearly expressed our resolute will of rejecting the collusion between South Korea and the Soviet Union with mass resistance of fierce demonstrations and sit-ins, chanting slogans, "Overthrow No Tae-u" and "We oppose Gorbachev's visit to South Korea at all costs" across the country including Seoul and Cheju Island. We the masses would be subjected to unprecedented suffering, falling tragic victim to the perpetual national division and war if we were to tolerate the No Tae-u ring which betrays the fellow countrymen and engage in flunkeyist treachery.

The fate of the nation should never be determined by foreign forces or national traitors. Our fate is held by our own hands and is pioneered by the strength of our nation itself. Our SKNDF and the masses of all strata will conduct the patriotic sacred war in a more daring manner under the ideals of independence and reunification to gouge out the foreign forces which seek two Koreas and to overthrow the No Tae-u flunkeyist traitorous group.

21 April 1991, Seoul

Trade Accord Signed With Soviet Republics

*SK2204105191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1023 GMT 22 Apr 91*

[Text] Moscow April 19 (KCNA)—Agreements on trade and economic cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Soviet Socialist Republics, Turkmen, Tajik and Kyrgyz were recently signed.

The agreements were respectively signed on our side by Kim Chong-u, vice-minister of external economic affairs and head of the DPRK Government economic delegation which visited the Soviet Socialist Republics and on the other sides by Niyaz Nurklychev, member of the Presidential Council and deputy head of government of Turkmen, by Mirzotemur Mirzoyev, minister of state foreign economic relations of Tajik and by Mikhail Paryshkura, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of Kyrgyz.

Kim Il-song Gives Interview to Japanese Daily

*SK2104055491 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 2100 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Full text of answers given by Kim Il-song to questions asked by the editor-in-chief of MAINICHI SHIMBUN; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] On 19 April 1991, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song answered questions raised by the editor-in-chief of the Japanese daily MAINICHI SHIMBUN. The full text of the great leader's answers was carried by the MAINICHI SHIMBUN in its 20 April issue.

The following is the full text of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's answers:

I welcome the MAINICHI SHIMBUN delegation's visit to our country.

For convenience's sake, I intend to be general in my answers.

First, I would like to talk about the question of normalizing diplomatic relations between Korea and Japan. Korea and Japan, both Asian countries, are geographically close neighbors. Since our two countries are neighbors, they should be close to each other as a matter of course. However, they have been close but distant countries. This is abnormal.

To normalize relations between Korea and Japan, after sweeping away their incorrect past, was an issue that should have been resolved once and for all at the end of World War II. Regrettably, however, the Japanese rulers have enforced an unfriendly policy toward our Republic, going against the will of the Japanese people who want to examine their past and follow a correct track.

Unjust politics running counter to the trends of the time, caused by converting the world into one governed by independence, will not last long and history is bound to advance.

At a time when the broad range of the Japanese people raise their voices to call for normalizing Korean-Japanese

relations, politicians with vision have resolutely set out to do just that, thereby opening a new phase for improving relations between our two countries. We have come to appreciate the affirmative changes that have taken place in Japan's policy toward Korea and to positively approach the question of normalizing relations between the two countries.

It is wrong to link the question of normalizing relations between Korea and Japan to that of cross-recognition. The so-called cross-recognition prompted by the imperialists stems from an incorrect way of thinking which planned to have the major powers bargain for and make decision about questions related to our people's fate, ignoring our country's sovereignty. Its objective is to perpetuate the division of Korea by legalizing the two Koreas. We do not recognize the words "cross-recognition."

Normalizing Korean-Japanese diplomatic relations is a way to start a new history of friendly relations between our two countries, based on the principle of equality and reciprocity that corresponds to the call of the times.

Reflected in the joint statement announced last year, following an agreement reached between the Workers' Party of Korea and Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, as well as Japan's Socialist Party, were the common desire of the people in our two countries who are determined to improve relations between Korea and Japan as well as the principles designed to realize this desire.

The prospect for improving Korean-Japanese relations depends on what kind of stand the governments of our two countries take and what efforts they make. The governments of our two countries should resolve questions in a way that corresponds to the common desire and call of the people of our two countries by taking a firm independent stand, as a matter of course. Also, they should see to it that the question of Korean-Japanese relations avoids being interfered in or influenced by outside forces.

Next, I would like to talk about the question of socialist construction in our country.

We have consistently maintained the correct line of building a socialism centered on man by embodying the *chuche* idea, without adhering to any existing formulas governing socialist construction.

The *chuche* idea is a scientific socialist theory of illuminating the road to a complete realization of independence for the popular masses by remolding nature, society, and man on the strength of the inexhaustibly creative ingenuity of the popular masses, the driving force behind history, according to the demands of this driving force.

Building a socialist society centered on man by embodying the *chuche* idea means building a truly popular society where the popular masses enjoy independent and creative life in all areas of society as the masters of the state and society.

Whether socialist construction will be successful or not depends on how the popular masses, the driving force behind the revolution, are prepared and how they play

their role as the driving force. For this reason, we have concentrated effort primarily on strengthening the driving force and on raising its role while we have been engaged in socialist construction.

Above all, we have strengthened the party, the core force of the popular masses, organizationally and ideologically; we have achieved political and ideological unity in society by rallying all the people firmly around the party.

We have built an independent socialist state—self-dependent in politics, self-supporting in economics, and self-reliant in defense—by implementing the *chuche*-oriented socialist construction line through the mobilization of the inexhaustible creative ingenuity of the popular masses.

A self-supporting national economy constitutes the material foundation for independent socialism. By consistently maintaining the lines of a self-supporting national economic construction in the course of socialist construction, we have built an all-embracing and self-supporting economic system in which all the sectors, including light industry and agriculture, are being developed simultaneously on the strength of the solid heavy industrial foundation.

The self-supporting national economy built by our people, thanks to their self-reliance and arduous struggle, guarantees the popular masses with independent material and cultural living.

Our people are now leading an even and stable life without worrying about food, clothing, and housing problems. Our country knows no such thing as unemployment, and everyone across the country is enjoying the creative life of the worker in their stable workshops, according to their talent and ability.

Thanks to the benefits of a free compulsory educational system and free medical care, everyone learns for as long as they want and enjoys long life and good health. Our people can be said to enjoy a happy and rewarding socialist material and cultural life, although it cannot be said to be an affluent life.

Our people take great pride in having built socialism on their own, corresponding to their demand, and have a deep attachment to socialism in our country.

The basic guarantee that has enabled socialism in our country to come a long way, taking advantage of victory without ever wavering in any kind of storm, lies in the mighty *chuche* idea in which the party and the popular masses are firmly united by a single sociopolitical organic body, and in the fact that all the people cherish socialism as their unwavering code of faith.

Under the banner of the *chuche* idea, we will consummate the socialist cause to the end by raising the people's ideological and cultural level without interruption and by continuing to solidify the material and technological foundation for socialism through the vigorous launching of the three revolutions—ideological, technical, and cultural.

Next, I would like to talk about the reunification question of our country.

The question of Korea's reunification is not only an internal affair of our people, but it is also a question deeply related to international relationships.

When the background against which our country was divided is called into question, along with the reason why reunification of our country has not been realized up until now, it is primarily related to outside forces. Had it not been for Japan's occupation of Korea and its colonial rule, such things as division or reunification would never have existed. Had the major powers not settled the Korean question based on their confrontational relationship between East and West at the end of World War II, our country would not have been divided.

It is chiefly because the United States has continued its occupation of South Korea and stood in the way of its reunification that our country has not been reunified for the nearly half a century since it was divided. The settlement of the Korean reunification question is not only a matter of life and death for our people in order to realize national desire, but is also a matter of significance in ensuring peace and stability in Asia.

Our consistent stand on settling the question of national reunification is to reunify the country by founding a confederal system based on one nation and one state, two systems and two governments, according to the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity.

Since different ideologies and systems do exist in the North and South of our country, the only way to peacefully settle the reunification question, without one side swallowing up the other side or being swallowed up, is to do so by founding a confederal system.

If and when reunification is realized by way of the confederal system, our country is expected to develop itself as a nation neutral and nonaligned, without being subjected to another country as a satellite. Our country's reunification will not run into conflict with anybody's interest or pose a threat to anybody else.

We will continue developing dialogue between the North and South in order to solve the question of national reunification, and we will make patient efforts to overcome the obstacles laid before reunification.

Concerned countries such as the United States that are responsible for the Korean question should actively cooperate with each other so as to realize our country's reunification at the earliest possible date.

Today's changed reality shows more clearly that the U.S. policy toward Korea is outdated and is not in the interest of the American people.

The United States should abandon its anachronistic policy toward Korea after freeing itself from the old-fashioned conception of being unconditionally hostile to our Republic, and should discharge its own responsibility for

settling the Korean reunification question. Only then will there be bright prospects for improving Korean-U.S. relations [chomi kwangye].

We hope that the United Nations, which bears a mission to defend peace and justice in international relationships, will pay deep attention to the Korean reunification question and will contribute to settling this question as a matter of course.

Speaking of our country's entry into the United Nations, our principled stand is to enter it in the name of one country after having realized reunification of the country by way of founding a confederal system. If we are to enter the United Nations before then, we insist that the North and South enter it with one seat. To try to get admitted unilaterally into the United Nations at a time when national reunification has not been realized means, ultimately, to perpetuate division. If the South enters the United Nations unilaterally, it will be held accountable by history for the division of the country.

Concluding, I would like to talk about the question related to peace and stability in Asia.

Asia, which in the past used to be an object of the imperialists' aggression and plundering, has now entered a new stage of its own development. Asia should be Asia for the Asian people, as a matter of course. It is imperative for the Asian people to discharge their responsibility and role in building a new Asia as the masters. No longer should the Asian people tolerate the tyranny and intervention of the imperialists in the settlement of the Asian question while they remain firm on their stand of independence. The Asian people should seek close cooperation among them—irrespective of differences in ideology, system, and religions—if they are to build a new, independent, and prosperous Asia.

In order to ensure peace and stability in Asia, it is imperative to dismantle the aggressive military bases in the Asian region, remove foreign troops from there, and actively struggle against aggression and war. Not only are U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, but there are also a large number of nuclear weapons deployed there, constituting a grave danger to peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in Asia. It is unreasonable and unjust for the United States, while blackmailing us after having turned South Korea into the most dangerous nuclear base, to babble about an inspection of somebody else's nuclear facilities.

As in the past, the Government of our Republic will make positive efforts to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone and to defend peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in Asia.

I hope that MAINICHI SHIMBUN will play an affirmative role in developing Korean-Japanese relations and wish you success in your business.

Officials Attend Reception at Cuban Embassy

SK2004105991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1013 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 20 (KCNA)—Cuban Ambassador to the DPRK Juan Jose Leon Vega April 19 hosted a reception at his embassy on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban people in the Playa Giron battle.

Invited there were chief of general staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea; Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam, chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee; chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Chong Chun-ki, and other officials concerned.

Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega made a speech at the reception.

Recalling that the Cuban people 30 years ago decisively fought back with bravery the aggression the U.S. Government committed by mobilizing mercenaries, he said: The victory of the Cuban people in the Playa Giron battle was a great historic event for them.

At the time of the aggression of the U.S. imperialists on Playa Giron, the Workers' Party and the Government of Korea and the fraternal Korean people extended solidarity to the Cuban people in the struggle, he said; and continued:

The Cuban people deeply rejoice at the new success made by the Korean people in the persistent efforts for promoting the wellbeing and achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the country under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, resolutely defending socialism.

The U.S. imperialists who committed an aggressive armed intervention in Cuba 30 years ago, he charged, had provoked a war in Korea in 1950, keep still today more than 40,000 U.S. troops and quantities of nuclear weapons in South Korea and are staging systematically all forms of military exercises to attack the peaceful people in the northern half of Korea. Saying that the people and Army of Cuba support the just cause of the government, people and soldiers of the DPRK for the peaceful reunification of the country, he wished the Korean people fresh success in the efforts for the socialist construction and national reunification.

Then, Choe Kwang made a speech.

The victory of the Cuban people in the Playa Giron battle was a historic event that taught the truth that the people's cause of justice is invincible if they advance along the road of socialism with their own faith and no one can break the indomitable fighting spirit of the people who are firmly rallied behind the leader.

The Cuban people are now waging a vigorous struggle to defend and safeguard the socialist position in the Western hemisphere in the same spirit and vigour as they displayed in the Playa Giron battle.

The Korean people note with high appreciation that the Cuban people are victoriously advancing, overflowing with confidence and optimism about the victory of revolution under the leadership of respected Comrade Fidel Castro under the difficult situation in which the imperialists are ever intensifying the anti-socialist acts.

Though the U.S. imperialists are turning the sharp edge of their anti-socialist moves to revolutionary Korea and Cuba, the two peoples will stoutly fight for the ultimate victory of the revolution, holding ever higher the banner of socialism under the guidance of the great leaders and the great parties, he stressed.

*** Double Independent Accounting System Explained**

912C01704 *Pyongyang CHOLLIMA in Korean*
No 1, Jan 91 pp 40-42

[Article by So Kwon-hyok: "Complexes and the Independent Accounting System"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught:

"To conduct industrial management properly, we must carry through the Taean work system thoroughly and operate the independent accounting system [IAS] correctly."

Complexes, which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song organized for us in accordance with the characteristics of socialist society and the inevitable demands of economic development in our country, represent a new way, our way, of industrial organization. They are now fully displaying their superiority and vitality through practice.

To see that the complexes prove their worth and give their superiority even fuller play constitutes an important guarantee for our successful fulfillment of the gigantic economic tasks confronting us today.

One of the major tasks in having complexes prove their worth is to see that IAS is operated correctly there.

IAS is a method of planned control and management for socialist state-run enterprises. It is based on the principle of people's material concern for the results of enterprises' industrial activities and premised on the application in form of the law of value in economic operations.

IAS should serve as a means to ensure smooth production; therefore, it must be applied in the direction of strengthening the centralized planned guidance. In addition, the question of setting up units of IAS should be resolved correctly. At a time the economy is expanding in scale and the socialist cooperative production growing in complexity, instituting complexes is the only way to successfully overcome phenomena of particularism and have IAS serve better to stimulate production and ensure its smoothness.

Also, only by operating IAS on the basis of each complex and at the same time on the basis of each individual enterprise affiliated with it can we correctly combine the interests of the complex and those of the base-level factories and enterprises and see that they both enhance their sense of responsibility and initiative.

Our great leader taught about putting a double independent accounting system [DIAS] into operation at complexes.

Complexes are furnished with conditions necessary for operating on their own under state guidance. Therefore, if complexes are effectively managed and operated under the principle of DIAS, we can bring their superiority into full play and expedite the nation's overall economic development.

The decision to apply DIAS to complexes is a wise step giving a new solution to the questions of unit and method of IAS.

Then, what is DIAS?

DIAS is a form of IAS deepened and developed to suit realities of the complexes the number of which has increased significantly. It is an IAS applied simultaneously to complexes and to factories and enterprises under them, namely, in a double way, literally.

In cases where IAS is operated at complexes but not at base-level factories and enterprises or vice-versa, one cannot call it DIAS. Therefore, if the system is to become DIAS, both the complex and the factories and enterprises under it have to implement IAS simultaneously, each acting as an IAS unit.

DIAS provides economic leverage for the rational control and management of complexes.

DIAS makes it possible to manage and operate complexes and the affiliated factories and enterprises on a planned basis.

Planning is the inherent demand of the socialist economic system.

All industrial activities of complexes are conducted on a planned basis, out and out under state control and guidance. The organizing and managing of production, control of technology and facilities, details to ensure the necessary materials and supplies, labor administration and financial management at complexes are all activities to fulfill state-assigned people's economy plans. At complexes, the organizing and commanding of production, manpower control, supply of materials, repair and maintenance of facilities, and even the utilization in form of the law of value are all conducted on a planned basis.

Needless to say, each complex enjoys relative autonomy in its relationship with the state or other complexes. The relative autonomy in this case is valid only within the framework of the unified planning by the state, and its purpose is to correctly materialize the principle of planned management under state guidance and control.

DIAS enables each complex to keep firm, unified control on management activities of the complex and affiliated factories and enterprises under state guidance, ensuring movements of all assets and funds on a planned basis. Precisely therein lies the reason why DIAS should be the method of planned control and management of complexes.

DIAS enables complexes and their affiliated factories and enterprises to be managed and operated under the principle of collectivism.

The nature of a management method is basically determined by whether it is based on the principle of collectivism or individualism.

Collectivism is of socialist, communist nature but individualism is capitalist in nature.

Under socialism, the method of industrial management should be based thoroughly on the principle of collectivism.

In his classic work **"On Several Questions in the Chuche Ideology Indoctrination,"** the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il taught that the regular method to manage and operate the socialist system should absolutely be a collectivist one.

DIAS correctly embodies the principle of collectivism in the management and operations of complexes. Under DIAS, the appraisal of plan fulfillment by a complex or by a factory or enterprise under it and the application of political, moral and material stimulants are carried out in the direction of strengthening creative cooperation between the complex and the factories and enterprises under it and between the factories and enterprises themselves. Thus, it brings base-level factories and enterprises under a complex to highly display their collectivist spirit by showing interests not only in their own unit's plan fulfillment but in the complex' or the mother enterprise's plan fulfillment as well and thus to cooperate with and assist one another.

This shows that DIAS is the method of control and management for complexes embodying the principle of collectivism correctly.

To correctly implement DIAS is an extremely important task confronting us in the present period.

Inasmuch as DIAS is a new method being put in place for the first time, a correct methodology is needed to accurately implement it in accordance with the existing conditions.

For the correct implementation of DIAS, it is important to combine the interests of a complex and those of the factories and enterprises under it in an organic way so that functionaries of both the complex and base-level factories and enterprises can fully display the initiative as the masters of production and management.

To combine organically the interests of a complex and those of base-level factories and enterprises means to see problems arising in production and management from a viewpoint based on the interests of both the complex and affiliated factories and enterprises alike and to find a solution combining both. Combining them in an organic manner is the only way to make functionaries of the complex and the factories and enterprises under it participate in the IAS work with an attitude worthy of a master and to conduct management in a scientific, rational way through correct use of various economic leverages.

Important in combining correctly the interests of a complex and those of factories and enterprises under it is first of all to correctly appraise the plan fulfillment by a factory or enterprise by the degree of its contribution to the complex' or the mother enterprise's plan fulfillment.

Viewed from the standpoint of production and management, the base-level factories and enterprises are part of the complex. Therefore, when a factory or enterprise under a complex has overfulfilled its plan, it means that it has contributed that much more to the complex' plan fulfillment, while on the other hand if it has failed to fulfill its plan, it has created an impediment to the complex' overall plan fulfillment.

Therefore, plan fulfillment by a base-level factory or enterprise should be appraised not only by how much it has fulfilled its own plan but also by how much it has contributed to the complex' or the mother enterprise's plan fulfillment.

To conduct a combined appraisal like that on the base-level factories and enterprises, it is important to set up combination-unit enterprises and combination coefficients scientifically, and to apply the combined-appraisal method correctly in accordance with the demands of the socialist distribution principle.

Important above all is to correctly set up combination-unit enterprises for the combined-appraisal work.

Combination-unit enterprises in this case mean, in a nutshell, the enterprises put together into a unit for a combined appraisal of their plan fulfillments.

Since production relations vary between individual factories and enterprises, combination-unit enterprises are not necessarily the same for individual factories and enterprises. Therefore, to set up combination-unit enterprises correctly, the composition of each complex and the production links between base-level factories and enterprises should be considered on a specific basis.

Complicatedly entangled are production links between factories and enterprises affiliated with a complex. While some of them both give and receive products, others only give or only receive products.

It is an extremely complicated and difficult job to set up combination units by following each and every route of products being given and received between factories and enterprises under a complex. In order to avoid such complications and yet to be able to set up combination-unit enterprises reasonably and clearly, only the route of giving products—namely, the relationship of the supply-side enterprise giving products to the demand-side enterprise within the same complex—should be considered.

Once the combination-unit enterprises are defined scientifically, then comes the task of computing combination coefficients in a rational way.

Combination coefficients indicate how much weight should be placed on the fulfillment scores of factories and enterprises under a complex when the scores are put to a combined appraisal.

Plan fulfillment percentages after the combined appraisal vary with the size of the combination coefficient. Therefore, every one should take interest in having the coefficients fixed correctly.

To determine the combination coefficients scientifically and accurately, the depth of production links between the base-level factories and enterprises on one side and the combination-unit enterprises on the other should be weighed accurately. Meanwhile, the depth of production links should be determined on the basis of how much the individual base-level factories and enterprises have given to their combination-unit enterprises out of their total products (such as raw materials, other materials and supplies, and cooperative products).

Based on this principle, the Taean Heavy Machine Complex sets at 0.8 the combination coefficient for base-level factories and enterprises giving 50 percent or more of their gross production value to combination-unit enterprises, and at 0.9 for those giving less than 50 percent.

At the same time, the combined-appraisal method must be applied in a way that meets the demands of the principle of socialist distribution.

The combined plan fulfillment percentage for each base-level factory or enterprise is computed by adding the plan fulfillment percentage of the factory or enterprise multiplied by the pertinent combination coefficient to the combination-unit enterprise's plan fulfillment percentage multiplied by its combination coefficient. In conducting the combined appraisal, we must ensure that base-level factories and enterprises are rated for the degrees of their contributions to the respective combination-unit enterprises. In cases where this principle is not adhered to in the combined appraisal process, base-level factories and enterprises could end up sharing the responsibility for results caused by the fault of their combination-unit enterprises even after they themselves have discharged their obligations to the latter satisfactorily—or, to the contrary, benefiting from other people's work, namely, the work of their combination-unit enterprises whose plan fulfillment percentages are higher than their own, even when they have failed to send their products to their combination-unit enterprises as planned. This, after all, runs counter to the principle of socialist distribution that calls for paying according to what one has worked and earned; consequently, it affects negatively the interests of people in the combined-appraisal process and weakens their collectivist spirit for serving combination-unit enterprises better.

Therefore, it should be clearly stipulated where the combined appraisal process should be applied and where it should not. At the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, when base-level factories and enterprises have sent products as planned, it grants the combined appraisal only in cases where their combination-unit enterprises' plan fulfillment percentages are higher than those of the base-level factories and enterprises, but not in cases where they are lower. And when base-level factories and enterprises have failed to fulfill their obligations to their combination-unit enterprises satisfactorily, it grants the combined appraisal only

when their combination-unit enterprises' plan fulfillment percentages are lower than theirs, but not when they are higher than theirs.

Thus, operating the combined appraisal program accurately on the basis of a correct methodology constitutes an important factor ensuring organic links between the interests of complexes and those of base-level factories and enterprises.

Next important in ensuring organic links between the interests of complexes and those of base-level factories and enterprises is to give firm priority to political and moral stimulants and establish the Complex Fund and the Bonus Fund in a way that suits the conditions at each complex, and to put them to correct use.

The Complex Fund and the Bonus Fund are set up at complex levels with part of profits created at base-level factories and enterprises. Those funds are used on base-level factories and enterprises as well as for the complexes. Therefore, to set up and use correctly the two funds is one of the important tasks in ensuring close links between the interests of the complexes and those of base-level factories and enterprises.

Complexes should see to it that when awards are made from the Bonus Fund, they are always for contributions made to the complex' or the mother enterprise's plan fulfillment. They must thoroughly do away with the practice of paying equally to all. Even when a base-level factory or enterprise has failed to qualify, individual workshops or work teams at the factory or enterprise should be considered for a bonus pay when they have fulfilled their production and cost plans or made major contributions to resolving a pending complex-level problem.

As regards the accumulated Complex Fund, the complexes should take into account the financial conditions of base-level factories and enterprises, distributing it in the direction of giving greater shares—and on a preferential basis—to those having made fine contributions to the complex' or the mother enterprise's plan fulfillment.

To implement DIAS correctly, the financial review of each complex for each 10-day period and for each month should be conducted regularly with the Complex IAS Implementation Committee in a way dovetailing with production reviews. Also, efforts should continue to bring the detailed regulations governing DIAS to perfection ceaselessly.

Our party's guideline on the implementation of DIAS is vividly demonstrating its correctness through actual life.

We will correctly implement DIAS in accordance with the demands of the Taean work system and, by doing so, fulfill the economic tasks assigned the complexes in a creditable manner, qualitatively and quantitatively, and achieve the grand battle targets of the 1990's ahead of schedule.

KCNA Review of 20 Apr Pyongyang Press
SK2004063691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0451 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang April 20 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a photo-accompanied report that the great leader President Kim Il-song, accompanied by senior officials of the party and the state, went round the exhibition of joint venture products of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

Appearing in the press are a photo-illustrated report that President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a delegation of the Japanese MAINICHI SHIMBUN and news that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the delegation.

According to the press, President Kim Il-song received a gift and a congratulatory card from Sean Garland, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Ireland, on the occasion of April 15.

President Kim Il-song received messages from state leaders of various countries in reply to his messages of greetings to them on the occasion of the proclamation of republics and independence day of those countries, says NODONG SINMUN.

The paper reports that President Kim Il-song received a message from the participants in the starting ceremony of the "International Solidarity March for Supporting Korea's Reunification" held in Rwanda.

It informs the readers that "Let Us Bring the Advantages of Socialism in Our Country Into Full Play," an immortal classical work of President Kim Il-song, was brought out in booklet in Laos and Tanzania.

Carried in the paper is a report that a newspaper and the news agency of China reported that President Kim Il-song saw a joint performance of the Ninth April Spring Friendship Art Festival.

The paper conveys world public voices praising President Kim Il-song and accounts of functions held abroad on the occasion of April 15.

The paper in an article deals with the success of the Ninth April Spring Friendship Art Festival and gives an account of a friendship gathering of the participants in the festival and artistes in Pyongyang.

Thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea were conveyed to the units which had set examples in the production of the August 3 mass consumer goods, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN editorially calls for a successful fulfilment of the state budget this year.

According to the paper, the 18th plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth was held.

The Korean Documentary Film Studio released the documentary film "Proud Fruition of Pukchong Meeting", says the paper.

Carried in the paper is an account of a reception given by the Cuban ambassador to Korea on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban people in the Playa Giron battle.

It is reported in the press that the fifth meeting of the board of directors of the Korean General Company of International Joint Venture was held in Pyongyang, the Second Pyongyang Exhibition of International Youth Inventions and New Technologies closed and foreign delegations to the Pyongyang exhibition and youth inventors in Pyongyang had a meeting.

Chairman Yang Hyong-sop of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK sent a telephone message to the South Korean "National Assembly" Speaker Pak Chun-kyu and the acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the DPRK sent a telephone message to the South Korean Red Cross president, says the press.

According to the press, the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) released a statement denouncing the utterances of the South Korean puppet defence minister that "commando units would be sent to the North to surprise and destroy atomic reactor facilities". Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, issued a talk to the press in this connection and the news agency and a newspaper of China and TASS reported about the content of the statement of the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry condemning the jargon of the "defence minister".

Carried in the press are reports that South Korean students marked the 31st anniversary of the April 19 popular resistance with rallies and demonstrations against the South Korean "tour" of Gorbachev under the titles "more than 60,000 students of some 140 universities and colleges in Seoul, Cheju and other places of South Korea demonstrate in protest against the visit of Gorbachev and burn his portrait" and "oppose with death No Tae-u-Gorbachev talks intended for unilateral U.N. membership".

The reports include news that an estimated 500 students fought a pitched battle with combat police, burning a large portrait of Gorbachev a few hours before his arrival in Cheju Island.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with a commentary denouncing the No Tae-u ruling group for its wholesale suppression of the "National Council of Student Representatives" of South Korea (Chondaehyop).

NODONG SINMUN reports that various functions took place on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the proclamation of the socialist character of the Cuban revolution and the day of militias in Cuba, the Vilnius Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania of the Soviet Union and other organisations called for Saturday labor on the occasion of the 121st birth anniversary of Lenin and the Committee of the Ukrainian Republic for the defence of the name of V.I. Lenin and his cause was inaugurated.

A leading official of the Chinese Foreign Ministry in charge of West Europe, authorized by the Chinese Government, met with the Italian ambassador to China and lodged a protest against the visit to Taiwan of an Italian senior official, the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army called upon the whole army to well organize activities marking the May 4 movement and the Zimbabwean president called for unity of the South African liberation movements.

NODONG SINMUN reviews the situation of Bangladesh and the Gulf area.

KCNA Review of 22 Apr NODONG SINMUN

SK2204112091 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1012 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang April 22 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent by foreign party and state leaders on his birthday and a congratulatory letter to him from the participants in the National Seminar of Bangladesh on Self-Reliance and Building of a New Society.

Given in the paper are accounts of a colorful function and meetings held in Chita, the USSR, and Peru and Portugal on the occasion of April 15.

The paper says in an article that the great leader President Kim Il-song wisely led officials to work in a meticulous and tenacious way.

According to the paper, South Korean people composed a song "Song of the Sun" and is widely singing it in reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea were conveyed to the Kim Chong-tae General Electric Locomotive Works for producing electric locomotives in a short period and sending them to the extractive industry field, says the paper.

The paper editorially calls for bringing the advantages of socialism of our own style home to people through the actual life.

It informs the readers that innovations are being effected in the production of chemical fertilizers and the construction of Tongil Street, the mainstay of the 50,000 flat dwelling houses in Pyongyang, is being pushed ahead at a fast speed.

Appearing in the paper is a statement of the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front denouncing the so-called "summit talks between South Korea and the Soviet Union".

Seen in the paper are a press statement of Yu Ho-chun, director of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland condemning the bellicose outburst of the South Korean

puppet defence minister threatening to "surprise and destroy atomic reactor facilities of the North" and a statement of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace of Korea denouncing the war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland released its information No. 589 condemning the South Korean authorities' brutal suppression of hard-core members of the "National Council of Student Representatives", says the paper.

Also carried in the paper is an account of a central meeting of Korean Students in Japan held in Tokyo to mark the 31st anniversary of the April 19 popular uprising.

It runs an article on the political non-right and poverty of the South Korean workers.

It reports that the United States and the South Korean puppets staged one aerial war exercise against the North after another and the South Korean authorities whisked away more than 2,600 students and citizens who protested against the South Korean "tour" of Gorbachev.

In a commentary the paper brands the wartime host nations support "agreement" that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities are going to sign as undisguised preparations for a war against the North.

The paper dedicates an editorial article to the 121st birth anniversary of Lenin.

A meeting was held at a division of the Beijing Military Area of the Chinese People's Liberation Army in celebration of the 59th founding anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army, the Chinese RYONYONG SINMUN carried an article titled "True Records of History of Resisting America and Aiding Korea," Chinese schools at all levels plan to conduct activities to mark the 70th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of China, says the paper.

"When Does the Scheme To Bring Into Shape Quick Reaction Forces Show Query" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

South Korea

Activities, Results of Soviets' Visit Reported

No Tae-u Banquet Welcome Speech

SK1904172991 *Seoul KBS-1 Television Network*
in Korean 1430 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Speech by ROK President No Tae-u at banquet in honor of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Halla Hall, Shilla Hotel on Cheju Island on 19 April—live]

[Text] Despite various difficulties at home and abroad, in particular in the Soviet Union, His Excellency President Mikhail Gorbachev, Madame Gorbachev and entourage visited the ROK. I warmly welcome you in the name of all the people of the nation.

There is a saying in our country that a housewife who is a poor cook is apt to put off serving food to a guest as long as possible, because the food would be more delicious when he feels hungry, due to the wait.

However, the food served here this evening is not made by poor cooks at all because this place is a very precious one where we greet His Excellency Soviet President and Madam for the first time in our nation's history. Therefore, needless to say, only excellent food must be served.

Cheju Island is known as the place for a honeymoon. Not only newly married couples of our country, but also those from Japan are visiting here. Tonight, we feel as if Your Excellency and Madam are visiting this place as a newly married couple, and we have prepared our food as if for a newly married couple. Thus, our food is served somewhat late.

Your Excellency, I still clearly remember what you said when we met each other last June. You said that the ice between our two countries had melted and had become water. Then, I told you that not only had the ice melted, but our relations had also borne fruit. You replied that we should pick fruit if it is ripe, and said that we should pick it together. Ten months have already passed since that time. Our first summit talks were held in San Francisco, and I visited Moscow. Today's meeting is our third meeting.

From this enormous change, which is taking place in 10 months, we confirmed that the world is clearly changing.

Your Excellency, flowers are in full bloom on Cheju Island amid spring. This means that the spring here is not only the natural one, but also the spring that has arrived in the relations between our two countries. Thus, I firmly believe that the warm spring in Cheju will travel up the continent and across the Korean peninsula, and that the Asian Continent will be filled with waves of reconciliation and spring.

Your Excellency, I visited your country last December. I was deeply impressed by the insight of the leaders including Your Excellency, by the people's strong desire for perestroika, and in particular, by the bright eyes of the students in Moscow University. I still remember them with deep emotion.

Reform, which Your Excellency is carrying out by overcoming various difficulties, reflects your courage and leadership, and corresponds to the northern policy for which I am pushing. I vow to strive to harmonize these two so as to contribute to achieving global peace and prosperity.

I firmly believe that our meeting here will work as the motive power for realizing peace, cooperation, and reunification by cleanly removing the state of cold war on the Korean peninsula, where we are painfully suffering from, distrust, confrontation, tension, and the danger of war.

The Moscow declaration, which we made public in Moscow at the end of last year, not only accelerated the relations between our two countries in all the domains of

politics, economics, society, and culture but also powerfully developed them. I am greatly satisfied with this.

Your Excellency, I am well aware of the fact that the Soviet Union is faced with various difficulties in a transitional period. I fully understand the efforts you are exerting to overcome them. I express my respect for this.

It is my firm conviction that the efforts of Your Excellency to accomplish the reform at home and to build peace internationally are enjoying sympathy not only from myself but also from all the leaders of the world. I pledge to support your plans, more closely standing on your side than any other leader of any other nation, and to encourage your efforts for global peace.

I wish to mention again that the solemn flow of history shows that the era of the Pacific is being opened.

I wish Your Excellency health and a significant trip.

Ladies and gentlemen, I now propose a toast to the health of His Excellency President and Madame Mikhail Gorbachev; to everlasting prosperity of the Soviet Union and to the permanent friendship between the ROK and the Soviet Union.

South's Admission to UN Discussed

*SK2004040291 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 0300 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] President No Tae-u and President Gorbachev have agreed that if North Korea keeps refusing the simultaneous admission of the South and North into the United Nations, it will be necessary for the ROK to go ahead and become a UN member. The two men also concurred in calling for meaningful progress in the South-North dialogue, as well as the need for opening and reform in North Korea.

During their summit meeting held this morning in the Sara Room at the Hotel Silla in Soguipo, Cheju Island, President No Tae-u and President Gorbachev discussed issues of mutual interest, including the rapidly changing international situation and the situation in Northeast Asia following the war in the Gulf, the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula and policy and ways of preserving peace there, and bilateral issues designed to promote exchanges and cooperation between the ROK and the USSR.

In today's summit talks, the summit leaders of the two countries were of the opinion that South-North issues should be resolved through dialogue, exchange, and cooperation; that toward this end, meaningful South-North dialogue, such as the prime ministers' talks, should be resumed, agreeing to call on the North Korean side to come to South-North talks.

Concerning UN membership, President No Tae-u said that the ROK will continue efforts to persuade North Korea to agree to the simultaneous admission of the South and North into the United Nations. However, if North Korea refuses, the ROK will submit an application for the

unilateral admission of the ROK during the upcoming UN session. He then asked for the Soviet side's cooperation in this regard.

In response to this, President Gorbachev expressed his support for the ROK's stand on unilateral membership by saying that it is desirable for the South and North to be admitted into the world body simultaneously. However, if one side refuses, it is desirable that a sovereign country should become a UN member for the sake of the universal principle of peace, if for no other reason.

Agreement on Upgrading Relations

SK2004064291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0609 GMT
20 Apr 91

[By Kim Heung-suk]

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 20 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed Saturday to sign an agreement to upgrade relations and cooperation and to increase bilateral trade to 10 billion U.S. dollars a year by the mid-1990s.

Following the Korean-Soviet summit that lasted one hour and 35 minutes here, Soviet spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko told reporters that Gorbachev proposed signing a binational agreement and No expressed full support for the idea.

Gorbachev reiterated his proposal for a collective security system in Asia and the Pacific and underlined the importance of the region, which accounts for 50 percent of the world's gross national product and 40 percent of its trade.

The Kremlin leader, the first to come to Korea or Japan, felt his visit to this southern Korean island had expanded the scope of bilateral relations, Ignatenko said. Seoul and Moscow normalized diplomatic relations on Sept. 30 last year.

Two-way trade totalled 600 million dollars in 1989, double the previous year, and jumped to 889 million dollars in 1990.

Ignatenko said the two presidents agreed to increase that to 1.5 billion dollars this year. The figure for the first two months of 1991 was 155 million dollars, an impressive 42 percent increase over the same period last year.

Meeting pool reporters shortly before his departure, Gorbachev said the Korean question should be resolved by the Korean people themselves "with considerable support of the United Nations."

Speaking through a translator, the Soviet president said he felt sympathy for the division of the Korean people but on the timing of unification "it would be good if a representative of the Democratic People's Republic of (North) Korea could answer the question."

Perestroika was a policy that respected the different conditions of different nations and "does not intervene in other country's policies," Gorbachev said.

The Soviet Union, Japan and South Korea could "positively develop" the political situation in this part of the world, he said. "In this respect, my visit this time has been useful."

No said that while the Malta summit ended the cold war and established a new world order, his summit with Gorbachev would open a new era for peace and security in Northeast Asia.

Korean spokesman Yi Su-chong said the two presidents agreed to cooperate for early resumption of the suspended South-North Korean premiers' talks and for continued dialogue.

No explained why Seoul believed joint entry into the United Nations by both South and North Korea was desirable for improved inter-Korean cooperation and to reduce tension on the divided peninsula, and Gorbachev said he understood the position in view of the universality of the world body's membership.

No expressed thanks to Gorbachev for jointly affirming with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that North Korea's nuclear production and facilities should be opened to international inspection and control, Yi said.

No was told the Soviet Union firmly adhered to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] rules, according to Yi.

The two presidents described themselves as "very satisfied" with the outcome of their talks.

"We are very much satisfied with our visit this time. We believe this visit would elevate the level of relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea, and this region as a whole," Ignatenko said.

Yi seconded that, saying No was pleased with the outcome of the visit, during which it was agreed to arrange a meeting of the foreign ministers of the two sides.

"A very warm, friendly and cordial atmosphere filled the conference room throughout the meeting," Yi said. He also said the Soviet president will visit Seoul in the near future.

The 95 minute session was attended by presidential security advisers on both sides and focused on political subjects, Korean officials said.

"Although President Gorbachev did not say clearly (about our U.N. membership bid), I, from what I sensed during the talks, can say that I'm very satisfied," said Kim Chong-hui, presidential adviser for national security and diplomacy.

In a separate meeting, Foreign Ministers Yi Sang-ok and Aleksandr Bessmertnykh agreed to visit each other's country in the near future.

Yi called on Bessmertnykh to unveil the truth of the Soviet downing of a Korean Air jetliner on Sept. 1, 1983, pointing out the string of news reports since the last Korea-Soviet foreign ministers' talks in December.

The Soviet minister said he was "personally" shocked by the reports and promised his government would do whatever it could in relation to them, a Korean Foreign Ministry official said.

Bessmertnykh also pledged support for the visit of relatives of the KAL 007 victims to the Soviet island of Sakhalin. The plane was shot down off Sakhalin Sept. 1, 1983.

They agreed to "continue consultations" over South Korea's bid for U.N. membership as there was plenty of time until the General Assembly convenes.

Bessmertnykh implied Soviet support for Seoul's position of joining the world body alone if North Korea refused to join together.

"As in the case of East and Germany [as received], the presence of South and North Korea in the United Nations would not hinder their unification," the Korean official quoted him as saying.

The two ministers shared the view that North Korea's signing of the IAEA safeguards accord was obligatory under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and agreed to make efforts to get the North to comply.

No, Gorbachev Hold News Conference

SK2004071691 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 0420 GMT 20 Apr 91

[News conference by ROK President No Tae-u and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at Hotel Shilla on Cheju Island on 20 April, translators translate in Korean and Russian—live; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] ...you [Gorbachev] said that you would visit North Korea. Do you have any plan to visit Seoul and Pyongyang at the same time?

[Gorbachev] As for the reporter's first question, I think a delegate of the DPRK ought to answer it. The basic position of the new thinking policy that I put forward is that every country should have freedom of choice; that is, every country should choose its own fate. As I am convinced, the perestroika being implemented in the Soviet Union is, of course, needed by the Soviet Union, but since perestroika policy has general standards, it also has normal significance. [sentence as heard] However, we do not force our perestroika upon any other countries. Each country should choose for itself.

As for the second question, the world is now changing. In other words, there are changes worldwide and there are changes regionally. This is true in view of the developments in the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, the situation in Europe, and the situation in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Soviet Union and the ROK have trodden a long course within a short period of time. This reveals much. Therefore, the peoples of North and South Korea should cooperate to discuss how to achieve reunification, their long-cherished desire.

We value our relations with North Korea and are glad that the relations between North and South Korea are being developed well. The Soviet Union is sympathetic to the ROK people's long-cherished desire. I think that a new opportunity, a new potential, is being made available to achieve this long-cherished national desire.

Of course, such steps should be taken first on the Korean peninsula, and the international community, particularly the United Nations, should render necessary support.

As for the third question, as we promised, I will visit Seoul, the capital city of your country, at an appropriate time.

[Announcer briefly interrupts to say the news conference continues]

[Gorbachev] I think my expectations have been fully met.

We will push ahead with relations between Japan and the Soviet Union, which we discussed with the delegates of the Japanese Government.

Coming to Cheju Island, though it was a brief visit, I have had very (?important) talks with His Excellency No Tae-u, with whom I have formed a close relationship. The talks proceeded in a good and serious atmosphere. I believe these talks will come to very good fruition. I think the Soviet Union, Japan, and the ROK will play a positive role in developing the situation in this region. In this respect as well, therefore, our visits to Japan and the ROK have been beneficial, I think. [Indistinct statement by announcer]

[No Tae-u] The fact that the top leaders of our two countries have had three rounds of talks itself is historic.

As you know, the Malta summit brought an end to the cold war in Europe, bringing forth a new world order.

However, unfortunately, in Northeast Asia, the cold war still exists; the danger of war still looms.

During the talks we have agreed, significantly, to regiment all external influence and strength to realize the peaceful reunification of North and South Korea by bringing an end to the cold war and confrontation and by eliminating the danger of war on the Korean peninsula in a bid to establish peace and realize cooperative relations here. Also, the relations between the two countries are mutually complementary relations, particularly in the economic field. We have confirmed that the two countries have infinite potential to develop their countries enormously if the two countries cooperate with these complementary elements, and we have pledged to cooperate in this regard.

Yi Sank-ok Invited to Moscow

SK2004050791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0442 GMT
20 Apr 91

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 20 (YONHAP)—The South Korean and Soviet foreign ministers, Yi Sang-ok and Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, may hold talks in Moscow before the end of June, a Korean Foreign Ministry official said Saturday.

Bessmertnykh invited Yi to visit the Soviet Union "at the earliest possible date" at the start of their talks on Cheju Island, he said.

The two met separately from the summit talks between Presidents No Tae-u and Mikhail Gorbachev.

The official said Yi might go to Moscow before U.S. President George Bush visits the Soviet Union in late June.

The foreign ministers were accompanied by Korean Ambassador to Moscow Kong No-myong, Assistant Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Yi Chong-pin, Kwon Yong-min, director-general for European Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev, Ambassador to Seoul Oleg Sokolov, and Sergey Razov, chief of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Indochinese and Far Eastern Countries.

Agreement To Expand Two-Way Trade

SK2004073791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT
20 Apr 91

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union have agreed to sharply expand two-way trade to over 1.5 billion U.S. dollars this year and more than 10 billion dollars by the mid-1990s.

That agreement came in Korean-Soviet trade ministers talks on Cheju Island Saturday afternoon while Presidents No Tae-u and Mikhail Gorbachev were holding summit talks in another room.

Korean Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so and Soviet Foreign Economic Relations Minister Konstantin Katushev also agreed that the two countries will hold the first Korea-Soviet economic ministerial talks in October.

A fisheries pact agreed in January will be signed as soon as possible and joint ventures in fish processing will be sought.

As natural resources such as natural gas and oil are useful, the two countries have decided to co-develop them, Korean sources said.

The two sides agreed to designate licensed importers and exporters and it will be possible for Korea to start exporting goods within the 800 million dollars earmarked for 1991.

To further enhance trade, the ministers promised to establish a Soviet trade representative with the Soviet Embassy in Korea.

The Soviet Union will also take part in the Taejon international exposition in 1993.

'Follow-Up Measures' Studied

SK2204024191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0158 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 22 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government began to devise follow-up measures to expand and deepen its economic exchanges with the Soviet

Union, capitalizing on the bolstered cooperative mood in the wake of a Seoul-Moscow summit over the weekend.

South Korea and the Soviet Union agreed on an early development of natural gas on Sakhalin Island in a separate trade ministers' meeting during the summit.

Officials at the Economic Planning Board, Trade and Industry Ministry and other economic agencies said they are planning to establish a private consortium with third countries, such as Japan and the United States, for the project.

South Korea is hoping to pass through North Korea when building the gas pipeline, officials said.

The Sakhalin project was agreed on Saturday between Trade Ministers Yi Pong-so and Konstantin Katushev of the Soviet Union. Katushev had accompanied President Mikhail Gorbachev to the southern island of Cheju during the Seoul-Moscow summit.

The government has a wide range of joint projects on the list of economic possibilities, covering shipping routes, fisheries and technological tieups.

Feasibility studies are nearly or fully completed on developments of Siberian oil fields, gas deposit in Yakut, petroleum and gas in Kalmyk Autonomous Republic as well as coal mines in Elginskoye, according to the officials.

Economic ministries will be arranging speedy, effective negotiations to open these various projects to South Korean businesses in joint ventures, they said.

Maritime officials are also hoping to wrap up the negotiations for a direct sea route connecting South Korea's Pusan port with Soviet Union's far eastern port of Vostochniy, at the latest by June.

Talks of opening the route for twice-a-week container service began early last year but are yet to be concluded.

South Korea is also hoping to expedite the conclusion of a bilateral fisheries agreement, initialed in January. The agreement will open the Bering Sea and Kamchatka to South Korean fishing vessels. A plan is under way to build a joint marine processing factory near a far eastern Soviet maritime area, the products of which will be shipped to Korea, according to officials.

Studies on the import of sophisticated technology from the Soviet Union will be the main focus at the South Korea-Soviet science ministers' talks scheduled for next month. The Korean Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) will serve as a conduit for introducing Soviet technology and transforming it for commercial application of the local industry.

The government is set to spend 1.5 billion dollars of tied loan to Moscow, part of the promised 3 billion dollar economic aid package to the Soviet Union.

Exports based on the tied loan will begin within first half of this year, officials said.

Presidential Spokesman Statement

SK2104010591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Apr 91 p 2

[Full text of statement issued by Presidential Spokesman Yi Su-chong at the conclusion of the summit talks between President No Tae-u and President Mikhail Gorbachev]

[Text] President No Tae-u of the Republic of Korea and President Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union have just concluded their summit talks. The two Presidents have agreed that the Republic of Korea and the Soviet Union would actively continue their concerted efforts to bring about peace in, and remove the vestiges of the Cold War from, the Korean Peninsula; to develop a sustained Korea-Soviet relationship; and to further promote regional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific.

A very warm, friendly and cordial atmosphere filled the conference room throughout the meeting, which was taking place on the west wing of Shilla Hotel here on the southern resort island of Cheju, and the two leaders met from 11:00 A.M. this morning.

Emerging from their exclusive meeting, the two leaders said that they were extremely pleased and satisfied with both the outcome of the summit talks and the rapidity of progress in Korea-Soviet bilateral relations. Some of the highlights of this morning's summit talks include the following:

President No Tae-u and President Gorbachev have agreed that in light of new imperatives of openness and reconciliation in this era of global change the legacies of the Cold War such as tensions and confrontations should be removed from the Korean Peninsula as well, and that the Republic of Korea and the Soviet Union should join their efforts toward these ends.

The two leaders have recognized that President Gorbachev's visit to Korea today is the first ever by a head of state and supreme leader of the Soviet Union, that the visit in itself reflects and heralds to the world President Gorbachev's firm resolve, and the policy of the Soviet government, to build a lasting peace in this region by removing the confrontational structure extant in the Korean Peninsula and by encouraging a more cooperative and mutually advantageous relationship between South and North Korea, and that the Cheju Summit would have a deep and lasting impact on the Korean Peninsula in terms of relaxation of tension.

Nuclear Safeguards

The two Presidents also expressed their shared view that South and North Korea should build a relationship more conducive to mutual cooperation and exchange on the basis of openness and reconciliation, and, recalling that three rounds of high-level conference have taken place between South and North Korea in the course of last year, the two leaders agreed to cooperate for an early resumption of the suspended South-North Prime Ministers' Talks and

for a continued dialogue, meaningful progress, and substantive improvement of relations between the two parts of Korea.

The two Presidents have exchanged views on the situation of the Korean Peninsula and its surrounding environment, and President No Tae-u expressed appreciation for the Soviet Union's multi-faceted efforts pertaining to North Korea's required accession to the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Commission] nuclear safeguards treaty and the international inspection requirements.

President No Tae-u has explained Republic of Korea's position that a joint entry into the United Nations by both South and North Korea is desirable for purposes of improved South-North cooperation as well as the reduction of tension in the Korean Peninsula; that to the extent North Korea has refused to a joint entry formula the Republic of Korea would go ahead and apply for the UN membership, and President Gorbachev in turn has expressed his understanding of President No Tae-u's position in view of the universality principle of the UN, and further expressed hope that South Korea would continue to pursue its dialogue with North Korea on this issue.

President No Tae-u emphasized that it was important not simply for improvement of inter-Korean relations, but also for North Korea's own benefit that North Korea shift from its isolationist policy to an open-door policy in timely response to global waves of reconciliation, and join South Korea as well as the international community.

President Gorbachev stated that all nations should guarantee their citizens freedom of socio-political choice and should pursue open-door policies and cooperative relations with others irrespective of ideologies, and that these were the essential elements of the new world order, which is presently replacing the Cold War structure around the world.

Cold War Legacies

President Gorbachev has expressed his sympathy toward the pains the Korean people have been suffering from the national as well as territorial division of their homeland, and reiterated his firm belief that in light of the collapse of Iron Curtain and the unification of Germany, the Korean people should also attain their national unification, and that the day South and North Korea would achieve a democratic and peaceful unification according to the will of the indigenous population would come in a not-too-distant future.

President No Tae-u stressed that the resolution of the Korean Peninsula problem is a prerequisite to peace and cooperation in Northeast Asia as well as in the Asia-Pacific region, and the two Presidents reaffirmed that they will continue to closely cooperate for the resolution of the Korean problem.

The two Presidents have further agreed to continue their exchange of views so that the Asia-Pacific would transform into a region of openness, cooperation and prosperity.

President Gorbachev has explained the outcome of his visit to Japan, and President No Tae-u stated in response that President Gorbachev's visit to Japan was very significant not simply for Soviet-Japanese relations but in the cause of peace and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific.

President No Tae-u indicated that in order for President Gorbachev's initiative for an Asia-Pacific East Asia process to get under way, it was essential that various elements of international atmosphere become more mature.

The two Presidents have agreed on an assessment that a rapid development of Korea-Soviet bilateral relations in all sectors would contribute not only to the mutual prosperity of the two countries but also to nurturing of a new Asia-Pacific as well as world order.

The two leaders reaffirmed their resolve to promote bilateral relations more dynamically, and double their efforts to encourage respective governments to accelerate the bilateral cooperation in all areas, including trade, economic cooperation, science and technology, resource development, communications, fisheries and airline services in addition to the already active cultural and personnel exchanges.

The Korean and Soviet Presidents were in full agreement that their governments should encourage concrete efforts toward joint projects such as adaptation of Soviet's advanced science and technology with Korea's manufacturing capabilities, joint venture projects between the businesses of the two countries, participation by Korean businesses in the development of natural gas, petroleum, timber and underground resources in Eastern Siberia, and other such social infrastructure projects as appropriate. In particular, the two Presidents agreed to pursue an early joint development of natural gas in the Sakhalin region by Korean firms participated in by third country business ventures.

President No Tae-u expressed his view that the Republic of Korea supports and encourages Soviet reform efforts not simply because perestroika will assuredly lead the Soviet Union to a freer and more prosperous society, but because the future of perestroika will have a significant impact on world peace as well as on world's future. President No Tae-u further expressed his appreciation for the warm friendship and hospitality the Soviet Government and people extended to him during his visit to the Soviet Union last December.

President Gorbachev expressed his appreciation and respects for the support and assistance the Republic of Korea has rendered to perestroika and various Soviet reform efforts. President Gorbachev has expressed his appreciation to President No Tae-u for the invitation to visit the Republic of Korea, and expressed his gratitude to the Korean Government and people for the warm friendship and hospitality they have accorded him during the current visit.

The two Presidents also expressed their shared view that dialogue and meetings between the two Presidents should continue into the future for a yet speedier development of

Korean-Soviet relations and for the promotion of cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

Ignatenko Interviewed on Results

*SK2204044791 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean
21 Apr 91 p 5*

[Report on interview with Vitaliy Ignatenko, Soviet presidential spokesman, by reporter Han Chong-tae, on 20 April at Cheju Island]

[Text] "The Soviet side is very satisfied with the Cheju summit talks between President No Tae-u and President Gorbachev. Therefore, I am of the firm belief that President Gorbachev will pay an official visit to the ROK sometime this year."

On 20 April, Vitaliy Ignatenko, the Soviet president's spokesman, who is regarded as one of the core members of President Gorbachev's official entourage consisting of 12 people, generally assessed as such the Cheju talks and said: "I believe that the aggravated economic situation in the Soviet Union which is due to the transition toward the market economy will ultimately be resolved."

[Han] First of all, what was your impression of the Cheju summit talks?

[Ignatenko] I was very satisfied. Relations between the two countries developed rapidly in a short period of time, and the volume of trade has been increasing by two folds annually. Especially, the fact that the presidents of the two countries held summit talks on three occasions during the past 10 months itself symbolically shows that everything is being carried out satisfactorily. I would like to add that I was once again charmed by the Korean people's friendliness. The scenery of Cheju Island was also very impressive.

[Han] What was mainly discussed in the summit talks?

[Ignatenko] Up until now a large range of issues generally had been discussed, but in this summit talks more specific issues regarding relations between the two countries and in the Asia-Pacific region were discussed.

[Han] You have been a close aide of President Gorbachev for a long time. How do you assess Gorbachev as "the man Gorbachev?"

[Ignatenko] President Gorbachev is a great person who will be recorded in history. He shows humanitarian interest to those around him and he always listens sincerely to what they say. Therefore, Gorby is a very easy person to associate with, and I feel very happy to be able to work with him.

[Han] Currently, the Soviet Union is faced with heaps of international issues and also a serious economic crisis and discord between the reformists and conservatives. How do you think that President Gorbachev will resolve these issues?

[Ignatenko] The process of moving toward a market economy is not easy. Therefore, it will be inevitable for us to experience great trials. From the time Gorbachev promoted perestroika he was prepared for these kinds of

difficulties. However, I am of the firm belief that President Gorbachev will ultimately overcome these difficulties and achieve a market economy.

[Han] Do you think that President Gorbachev will once again pay an official visit to the ROK sometime this year?

[Ignatenko] This issue was discussed in the summit talks, and I believe that there is a high possibility for his official visit.

Gorbachev Aide Interviewed

SK2204095491 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 21 Apr 91 P5

[Interview with Anatoliy Milyukov, Gorbachev's adviser for economic and social affairs, by KYONGHYANG SINMUN editorial staff reporter Hong Song-kyun, on 20 April on Cheju Island; first paragraph is introduction.]

[Text] In an interview on 20 April prior to his departure from Cheju, Dr. Anatoliy Milyukov, Gorbachev's adviser for economic and social affairs, said he highly valued the ROK-Soviet summit talks because "the current No-Gorbachev summit in Cheju has turned ROK-Soviet relations, which have been at an exploratory stage thus far, into practical and friendly relations," and because "the talks were historical and will affect the situation in Northeast Asian."

[Hong Song-kyun] What is your opinion on the ROK-Soviet summit talks in Cheju?

[Anatoliy Milyukov] We felt that the ROK's attitude during the summit talks was very sincere and frank. The six rounds of summit talks in Japan, and the last round in particular, were very difficult ones. I think that the good results achieved during the ROK-Soviet summit was due to such a good attitude. What is more important is that with the current ROK-Soviet summit in Cheju, ROK-Soviet relations have been developed into political relations. I believe that such developed relations will not only put an end to the cold war on the Korean peninsula, but will also bring great changes to the overall situation in Northeast Asia in the future. This is why I say the current ROK-Soviet summit was "historic."

[Hong] What change will the current summit talks bring to ROK-Soviet economic cooperation?

[Milyukov] What is important is that with the current summit talks, economic cooperation between the two countries has taken concrete shape. What impressed me was that President No Tae-u, in his speech at the banquet, expressed his will to actively support perestroyka. Through our contact thus far with the ROK, though it has been not long, we have come to believe that these words are by no means empty talk but have been put into practice.

We sincerely want to maintain economic cooperation with the ROK, which has achieved rapid economic development. We hope that with the current summit talks, economic cooperation between the two countries will bear fruition.

[Hong] I think that the current summit talks will have a great impact on North Korea. What do you think?

[Milyukov] I do not want to make any political comments which would affect North Korea. In Japan, asked about the prospect for future relations between the Soviet Union and North Korea, President Gorbachev said that existing relations between the Soviet Union and North Korea would be maintained and that ROK-Soviet relations will not hurt North Korean-Soviet relations.

However, one thing that I should make clear is that we have fully proven that the Soviet Union's basic diplomatic policy has been carried out according to the standards and rules recognized by international society. I think no one can deny that this "new thinking" in the diplomatic policy of the Soviet Union has reorganized today's international order. The Korean peninsula cannot become an exception where international standards and rules are applied. This has been proven by the current summit talks.

[Hong] What about your prospects for reunification of the Korean peninsula?

[Milyukov] The Korean peninsula's reunification should be achieved through negotiations between North and South Korea. It is true that the reunification of Germany further inspired the Korean people's desire for national reunification. However, the efforts for the reunification of Germany have continued ever since the era of Adenauer, and today's reunification of Germany is the result of these protracted efforts. Therefore, the reunification of Germany is not a result which was achieved overnight.

[Hong] But it has been the general opinion that the Soviet Union's influence performed a great function in achieving the reunification of Germany.

[Milyukov] Yes, it is true that the Soviet Union played a partial role in it.

[Hong] Do you think the same role by the Soviet Union, as played in achieving the reunification of Germany, can be expected on the Korean peninsula as well?

[Milyukov] I do not think the Soviet Union can perform the same function in achieving the reunification of the Korean peninsula as it did for the reunification of Germany because relations between the Soviet Union and East Germany, and those between the Soviet Union and North Korea, are different culturally, historically, and militarily. For instance, the Soviet Union deployed a large number of its military troops in East Germany, but not in North Korea. The Soviet Union's stand on reunification of the Korean peninsula is to create an atmosphere so that the North and South can achieve reunification quietly and peacefully.

Gorbachev Leaves Cheju Island

SK2004074191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT
20 Apr 91

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 20 (OANA-YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and his

wife left South Korea to return home on Saturday afternoon after an overnight stay on Cheju Island off the southern tip of the Korean peninsula.

The Gorbachevs, who arrived at the resort island on 9:40 P.M. Friday (KST), got aboard their Aeroflot plane with 12 official delegates at 3 P.M. [0600 GMT], waving and smiling before going inside.

Though the visit of the Soviet leader, the first to the Korean Peninsula, was 17 hours it was long enough to have two rounds of talks, a *tete-a-tete* and an expanded summit, while their foreign and commerce ministers held separate talks.

With the much-awaited Gorbachev's visit made, the two nations are poised to see further advancements in promoting economic and political ties.

Yi Sang-ok To Brief Japan, U.S.

SK2204024991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0225 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok will make official visits to Japan and the United States April 24-May 4, it was announced Monday.

Yi will brief U.S. and Japanese leaders on the third summit talks between Korean President No Tae-u and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, the Foreign Ministry said.

While in Tokyo through Friday, Yi will pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and will hold two rounds of talks with his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama on political situation in and around the Korean peninsula and the world as a whole, the Ministry said.

Yi will also meet with International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao and leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party including Secretary-General Keizo Obuchi.

While in Washington from April 27, Yi will call on President George Bush and will hold talks with Secretary of State James Baker on international situation after the Gulf war.

Also to be discussed at the Yi-Baker meeting will be bilateral cooperation in the changing political, security and trade environment in Northeast Asia, the Ministry said.

In their summit talks Saturday No and Gorbachev agreed to upgrade political and economic cooperation in the days ahead.

The Korean foreign minister will discuss security cooperation with Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and congressional leaders including House Speaker Thomas Foley, representatives, and will address on "Korea-U.S. Relations in a Changing World Toward Mature Partnership" in a meeting jointly sponsored by the World Affairs Council and the Asia Society.

The minister will also visit New York for talks with U.N. officials and envoys from the Security Council's permanent member countries on Seoul's bid to enter the United Nations.

South Korea plans to file an application for U.N. membership before the General Assembly convenes in September.

Yi will discuss matters concerning No's visit to America, tentatively scheduled for April 29, and will convey the government's position regarding an amity agreement proposed by Gorbachev during the summit, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Analysis of Cheju Summit Results

SK2004080491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0730 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Dispatch by Kim Heung-suk]

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 20 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev wound up a heavy week's travel in the Far East Saturday by heading home from Cheju Island, leaving behind a trail of footsteps that showed his fervent ardor for political initiatives in Northeast Asia and for economic reforms.

Gorbachev braved leaving his tumultuous homeland, vividly exhibiting his determination to win hegemony in the newly emerging order in Asia and the Pacific, to woo South Korea and Japan to give economic support for perestroika.

While his long-prepared trip to Japan fell short of expectations in both Tokyo and Moscow, the much-disputed stopover on this southern island of Korea seems to have paid off in the eyes of officials of both countries.

"We are very much satisfied with the summit talks," said spokesmen Yi Su-chong for No and Vitaliy Ignatenko for Gorbachev minutes after the summit wound up.

"By deciding to come here for a summit meeting with President No Tae-u, President Gorbachev has already expressed the strong will to practicality over ideology. By supporting our position in many aspects during his stay here, he has consolidated the path for the future relations," an official from President No's office said.

He said Gorbachev had hinted, above all, of support for South Korea's bid for U.N. membership by stressing the principle of universality of membership.

By reaffirming that North Korea's nuclear production and facilities should be opened to international control and inspection, the Soviet leader has also made his position clear that Pyongyang should come out of its decades-old isolation and resistance to the collapse of the cold war, he said.

The focus of the summit seems to have varied. Ignatenko stressed the agreement to upgrade bilateral trade to 10 billion U.S. dollars by the mid-1990s but Yi almost neglected the economic side.

Economic ties preceded diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union. The two countries

exchanged trade offices in April 1989 and consular offices in February 1990. On Sept. 30, Seoul and Moscow normalized relations.

In January, shortly after tying the diplomatic knot, Seoul agreed to offer 3 billion dollars in economic aid to Moscow.

The Seoul government's decision provoked anger and worry among many Koreans, who found the package too big for their economy.

Some diplomatic analysts speculated that Gorbachev might ask for additional help in return for his support for Seoul's position in relation to U.N. membership and North Korean nuclear capability.

A Korean diplomat said, however, the 3 billion-dollar package was already too big for Seoul but it has yet to be seen whether the speculation is wrong.

Like Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, No countered Gorbachev's proposal for a new mechanism for Asia-Pacific security with a precondition of settlement of the Korean question.

Gorbachev must have sensed a strong tripartite agreement among Japan, South Korea and the United States standing in the way of his proposal for a new regional security system and the Soviet struggle for influence in this part of the world.

By hosting a Kremlin leader for the first time in Korean history, President No seems to have scored another diplomatic coup to add to his much-publicized "Nordpolitik."

Both South Korean and Soviet officials say Gorbachev's visit to Cheju will force Pyongyang, often described as the most closed regime in the world, to open up and come out of isolation, thus promoting peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

The most important question now remains with North Korea, whose dictatorial "great" leader turned 79 on April 15, still pretending not to hear the sound of communism crumbling but casting an elusive look to the South.

South Korean assertions that Seoul-Moscow ties help North Korea's reform will only gain ground when the inter-Korean talks, stalled in many channels, are resumed soon and the fledgling trade, sports and cultural exchanges flourish.

Seoul Urges Soviet, North Membership in APEC

SK2204013091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0048 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea will seek every means to enable the Soviet Union and North Korea to join the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Foreign Ministry officials said Monday.

The officials said the issue would be brought to the third APEC ministers' meeting in Seoul in October for consultations with other members such as the United States and Japan.

The upcoming meeting is expected to decide whether to let China, Taiwan and Hong Kong join the regional organization.

"It is almost certain that the so-called three Chinas will be allowed into the body. The participation of the Soviet Union will probably top the agenda at the October meeting," one of the officials said.

He said the presence of the Soviet Union in the APEC was believed to benefit both Seoul and Moscow, now that the Soviet Union and South Korea had a shared recognition on cooperation in this region through the Cheju summit over the weekend.

Soviet presidential spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko said Saturday that South Korean President No Tae-u referred to the APEC when he met Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Korean island of Cheju on that day.

The Korean official said the government would sound out the participation of North Korea in the APEC ministers' meeting with the belief that an APEC membership would facilitate its opening.

"With the on-going direct trade between South and North Korea, we believe ultimately a joint Korean market can be created. We also believe North Korea's presence in the APEC will accelerate its opening," the official said.

APEC, founded in November 1989, has a dozen members. The 12 are South Korea, the United States, Japan, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations—the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand and Singapore.

Each nation is represented by its foreign or economic minister. If China and the Soviet Union join the body, APEC will likely function as a substantial forum for political and economic cooperation in this part of the world, Korean officials said.

Soviet Effort Toward PRC on UN Issue Noted

SK2204130591 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
18 Apr 91 p 1

[“Soviet Union Persuades China on ‘Korean Peninsula Issues’”]

[Text] It was revealed on 17 April 1991 that the Soviet Union has recently explained to China the ROK Government's position on issues surrounding the Korean peninsula such as the entry of North and South Korea into the United Nations, the opening of North Korea, and North Korea's entry into the nuclear safeguards agreement, and is actively requesting China's assistance in these matters.

In particular, by expressing to the Chinese the importance they place on the principle of universality of the United Nations and their understanding of the ROK's position on UN entry, the Soviets are known to have clearly expressed their supportive attitude toward the ROK's entry into the United Nations while requesting China's positive efforts for North and South Korean entry into the United Nations.

This position of the Soviet Union is seen as a result of their conclusion that solving the issue of the Korean peninsula is a key to establishing peace in Northeast Asia.

It is known that the Soviet Union passed on such intentions to China during talks in Beijing held between the two countries' vice foreign ministers in January 1991 and between their foreign ministers in early April 1991.

Concerning this, one high level expert within the government stated, "Following the establishment of relations between Korea and the Soviet Union, the Soviets have supported our position on issues such as entry into the United Nations, North-South talks, and inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities. Additionally, we are finding out through several different channels that the Soviets have been actively persuading the Chinese on this position."

While qualifying that with, "Although it is a fact that both the Soviet Union and China desire peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, because of each country's internal situation and respective interests, there are differences in their positions on concrete plans," this expert went on to explain that "The manifestation of Soviet support for Korea's position on UN entry will be an important factor in the position China decides to take on the matter."

The expert went on to reveal, "As for the issue of North Korea's entry into the nuclear safeguards agreement, we know that China shares the Soviet position on this matter and is working to persuade North Korea to quickly enter the agreement."

"We know that in the area of North-South talks as well, the Soviet Union, under the basic position of encouraging the North Koreans to adopt a more open attitude toward the talks, has requested that the Chinese jointly support these efforts." The expert went on to say, "Recently, considering that the USSR and China are searching for ways to improve their relations, such an attitude by the Soviets will positively influence a change in the situation around the Korean peninsula."

Following his 19 April meeting with President No Tae-u, Soviet President Gorbachev is scheduled to hold summit talks on 15 May with CPC Secretary General Jiang Zemin in Moscow. At this meeting, it is expected that Gorbachev will indirectly convey to China Korea's position on solving the problems surrounding the Korean peninsula.

PRC's Li Peng Postpones Trip to DPRK

SK2204123291 Seoul YONHAP in English 1219 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 22 (YONHAP)—Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng's visit to Pyongyang, which was originally set for mid-April for the occasion of North Korean President Kim Il-song's birthday, seems to have been postponed to next month, a South Korean Government official said Monday.

The official, who declined to be identified, said Li's trip to North Korea was put off until after an Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) general meeting slated to be held April 27 through May 4.

He said he could not tell the exact reason for the delay but added, "The decision does not seem to be totally irrelevant to Chinese Communist Party General-Secretary Jiang Zemin's visit to the Soviet Union scheduled for mid-May."

He pointed out that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev told South Korean President No Tae-u during talks over the weekend that Moscow and Beijing were exchanging views on Korea's membership in the United Nations and that China was believed to be finding North Korea's proposal for the sharing by two Koreas of a single U.N. seat unreasonable.

"In view of the Soviet leader's remarks, the decision to put off Li's trip was made out of the need to have time to review Beijing's position regarding North Korea's U.N. policy prior to Jiang's trip to Moscow," the official said.

Li was earlier known to be planning to visit Pyongyang on the occasion of Kim's birthday, which fell on April 15.

"Li is likely to visit North Korea before Jiang goes on a trip to the Soviet Union," he added.

DPRK's Kim Il-song Rejects Nuclear Inspection

SK2004000791 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Correspondent Chon Yong-ok report from Tokyo]

[Text] In a special interview with the Japanese paper MAINICHI SHIMBUN yesterday, North Korea's Kim Il-song said that he strongly refuses [kanglyoghi kobu handa] to accept inspection of nuclear facilities on North Korea, saying that it is unjust and stands against reason [toli-e maji anun pudanghan haengwi].

In addition, Kim Il-song denounced South Korea's move to enter the United Nations alone is an antihistoric act. But Kim Il-song said that, by using patience, he will make efforts to overcome the difficulties of reunification by continuing to develop North-South dialogue. And he showed his intention to continue holding the North-South premiers' talks.

In responding to a question on normalization of diplomatic ties between Japan and North Korea as being a path to North-South cross-recognition, Kim Il-song answered that it must be connected with it, but that he will not recognize the expression cross-recognition [kyocha sungin] itself.

In addition, on the economic situation in North Korea, Kim Il-song said that the North Korean people, although they can not be called rich, enjoy a socialist material and cultural life of which they are proud and happy.

A Pyongyang broadcast, monitored in Tokyo, reported that Kim Il-song, through the MAINICHI SHIMBUN

senior editorial staff, had received a gift and personal letter signed by Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu to congratulate him on his birthday.

More on Inspection Rejection

SK2004031791 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean
20 Apr 91 p 1

[Report by Tokyo-based correspondent Kang Su-ung]

[Text] Kang Sok-chu, North Korea's first deputy foreign minister, has recently been interviewed by Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN reporters (delegation led by Mori, head of the Editorial Department of its Tokyo office). Touching on the issue of nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), he said, "We cannot accept nuclear inspection unless we have the assurance that the United States will not pose a threat with its nuclear weapons," according to MAINICHI SHIMBUN dated 19 April.

On the subject of the suspended North-South premiers' talks, Deputy Foreign Minister Kang, expressing his pessimistic view of the prospects of the talks, said, "We urged the South side to implement four points, including the release of those who are imprisoned for visiting the North, but there are no signs of any change on the part of the South side. Under the circumstances, even if dialogue were to be resumed, no progress would be expected."

North's Kim Chong-il Said in Charge of Diplomacy

SK2204065491 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 22 Apr 91 p 2

[By correspondent Yi Tong-chu from Tokyo]

[Text] On 19 April, North Korea's Kim Yong-sun revealed that Kim Chong-il, secretary of the North Korean Workers Party, is expanding his diplomatic activities, and that there is a great possibility for him to come forward to the front of diplomatic activities in the very near future. In a news conference for reporters of Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN, now on a visit to the North, Secretary Kim Yong-sun said that "Kim Chong-il is in charge of comprehensive activities of the party and state, and is carrying out his works with enthusiasm." He added that Kim Chong-il is guiding "all domains of politics, economy, national defense, culture, and diplomacy," thus including the domain of foreign affairs.

Secretary Kim Chong-il has not visited any foreign country up to now except for the visit to China in 1983, and President Kim Il-song has personally received foreign guests visiting North Korea.

MAINICHI SHIMBUN observed that such remarks by Secretary Kim Yong-sun suggest that Secretary Kim Chong-il will pay visits to foreign countries on behalf of President Kim and will receive foreign guests in the near future.

South Grants Permission for North Family Visit

SK2104002491 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] A former South Korean government official was given government permission yesterday to visit North Korea to meet his sister, officials at the National Unification Board (NUB) said.

It is the first time ever that South Korea has granted permission to an individual for a family reunion in North Korea although there are an estimated 10 million members of separated families in the two halves of the Korean peninsula.

Tong Hun, 57, former vice national unification minister, and currently director of the Research Center for Peace and Unification of Korea, received an invitation March 20 from Chon Yong-yol, director of the North Korean Institute of Historical Research at the Academy of Social Sciences. His safe stay in the North and safe return to the South were guaranteed, they said.

His application was accepted by the NUB on April 13.

Tong is now in Beijing and will fly tomorrow to Pyongyang, where he will stay until May 2 to meet his sister, Tong Kyong-hui, 52, and collect historical facts for his research.

Tong was NUB vice minister from 1975 to 1978 and has worked at the research center since 1980.

To date, 184 South Koreans have made officially sanctioned visits to North Korea, including 17 traditional Korean musicians, 76 soccer players and officials, and 90 delegates and journalists attending the second prime ministers' talks, since a guideline was enacted to regulate inter-Korean cooperation in June 1989.

IPU Delegates Plan To Meet North Officials

SK2204132291 Seoul YONHAP in English 1253 GMT
22 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 22 (YONHAP)—The South Korean delegation to the 85th general meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is planning to meet with senior officials of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly, including its Standing Committee Chairman Yang Hyong-sop, Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ho Tam and Unification Policy Committee Chairman Yun Ki-pok, during its stay in Pyongyang on April 27-May 5.

During their talks with senior officials of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly, South Korean lawmakers will stress the need to resume the stalled inter-Korean parliamentary talks and premiers' talks and to hold the summit talks between South and North Korea at an early date, a senior member of the delegation said.

The South Korean lawmakers are also planning to deliver South Korean National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu's personal message calling for reciprocal visits by lawmakers between the two sides and early resumption of preliminary contact to the inter-Korean parliamentary talks, thus paving the way for resumption of the stalled inter-Korean dialogues.

"We expect to meet with many senior North Korean officials as the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly is said to be planning to hold receptions for our delegation," said Rep. Pak Chong-su, chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee and leader of the South Korean delegation, in an exclusive interview with YONHAP News Agency Monday.

"According to IPU's usual practices, we have at least three occasions to naturally meet with North Korean President Kim Il-song, but it is not still clear if Kim will meet with us separately."

However, he did not rule out the possibility of Kim meeting separately with the South Koreans, saying that "the North Korean side may show an exceptionally flexible gesture to us."

Kim is to deliver an address in the opening ceremony of the general session which will be held at the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly in Mansudae on April 29, receive heads of each delegation and host a reception for the delegations, thus taking part in three IPU-related events.

Pak declined to reveal whether his delegation carries with it President No Tae-u's personal message to Kim Il-song, but the delivery of a message may be considered if the South Korean delegation is to be given a chance to meet with Kim separately.

"We are ready to fully explain to the northern side our basic positions about pending inter-Korean issues, including inspection by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of the North Korean nuclear facilities, withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea and the U.S.-South Korea Team Spirit joint military exercise," he emphasized.

"During our stay in Pyongyang, we will try our best to broadly contact the North Korean officials as well as holding luncheon or dinner sessions with our North Korean counterparts."

The 85th IPU general session is slated for April 29-May 4 in Pyongyang.

The South Korean delegation, which will be composed of 12 lawmakers from the ruling and opposition parties, is scheduled to enter North Korea via the truce village of Panmunjom on April 27 and return home on May 5 through the same overland path.

Burma

Than Shwe: Transfer of Power 'Not Yet Feasible'

*BK2104115691 Rangoon Burma Television Network
in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Excerpts] General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], deputy commander in chief of the Defense Forces, and commander in chief of the Army, accompanied by Major General Tin U, secretary-2 of SLORC and Army chief of staff; Brigadier General Min Thein, joint adjutant general; Brigadier General Kyaw Tint, joint quartermaster general; Brigadier General Sein Ya, director of military training; Brigadier General Thaung Myint, director of engineering; senior military officers; and directors general and managing directors of departments, boards, and enterprises left Yangon [Rangoon] for Pegu Division by car at 1330 on 19 April. [passage omitted]

Gen. Than Shwe and party went to Peinzalok High School and met with township-level departmental officials, ward elders, and Armed Forces personnel of the 264th Infantry Regiment at the school's Sittang Hall. At the meeting, Maj. Gen. Tin U said that Peinzalok was the first stop on the tour of eastern areas of Pegu Division by SLORC Deputy Chairman Gen. Than Shwe and party. He said: We have come to inspect the regional situation and local development activities and to give help where necessary. He added that he was taking the opportunity to explain to the service personnel and the ward elders the situation in the country. It is known to everyone that the Defense Forces took over the responsibilities of the country not because they wanted power but because of unavoidable circumstances. Since taking over state responsibilities, the SLORC has been carrying out the four major tasks which have been laid down, and thanks to the conscientious cooperation from public service personnel and the people, the country has become peaceful and stable and progress can be seen.

There are still more than 80 political parties today, the majority of which are working more toward gaining state power and causing instability in the country than toward establishing calm. We must therefore always be alert and vigilant. Some foreign broadcasting stations have been making false allegations that we crave power and will not hand over power, that we are violating human rights, and that we are fighting against national groups.

We have explained repeatedly that we do not lust for power. The reason we have not transferred the responsibilities of the country to the others is because it is not yet feasible to hand them over. At present, we cannot find any organization that can govern the country in a peaceful and stable manner. For this very reason, Declaration No. 1/90 was issued so that a strong constitution will come into being and the country will be governed in a peaceful and stable manner. We are also working in accordance with that declaration.

There have not been any unfair arrests while we have been in charge of the state. We have only taken action according to the rules, regulations, and laws against the people who

breached the law. We only took action against people who exploded bombs, those who caused unrest in the country, and those who tried to disintegrate the armed forces. No unjust attacks have been made against ethnic insurgents as some foreign broadcasting stations have alleged. We have only taken action against pickpockets, thieves, and robbers to safeguard the peace and tranquillity of the people. We have been fighting the insurgents only to safeguard the people who want to live in peace and tranquillity. [passage omitted]

Next, Gen. Than Shwe spoke words of advice. In his speech he urged armed forces personnel at various regions to work diligently for the development of regions concerned. Regarding public relations, he said the people must be treated as if they are one's own parents and relatives. He also notes the need to respect local traditions and customs. Likewise, he said the people must treat Defense Service personnel like their own kith and kin. [passage omitted]

Gen. Than Shwe said matters concerning the transfer of power have become the talk of the town today. Power cannot be transferred at this time, because if that is done there will be instability in the country, and the Defense Forces do not want a situation in which they will have to take over state responsibilities one more time. A country does not come as cheaply as vegetables. This being the case, power cannot be transferred without a strong and stable constitution. A strong constitution must first be drafted in accordance with Declaration No. 1/90. Civilian governments made up of elected representatives cannot govern like us because we, the Defense Services, have seized the power and are administering the country with martial law, he said. [passage omitted]

Trade Minister Abel Returns From PRC 20 Apr

*BK2104062591 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, arrived back in Yangon [Rangoon] by aircraft at 1200 today after attending the 69th spring fair opening ceremony held in Guangzhou, at the invitation of the Yunan provincial government.

The minister was welcomed at the airport by Lieutenant General Aung Ye Kyaw, minister for construction and cooperatives; Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for livestock breeding and fisheries and for agriculture and forests; Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon division law and order restoration council; Major General Thein Win, Air Force chief of staff; Mr. Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar [Burma]; and directors general, managing directors, and responsible officials of departments and work units concerned under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Trade, and the Ministry of Planning and Finance.

Labor Minister Tin Tun Leaves for PRC 20 Apr

*BK2004144191 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] Major General Tin Tun, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and minister for transport

and communications and for social welfare and labor, left Yangon [Rangoon] at 0745 today in a Myanmar [Burma] Airways plane for Beijing to attend the Asia and Pacific Region Labor Ministers Conference from 23 to 26 April.

Minister Maj. Gen. Tin Tun and his delegation were seen off at the airport by Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister for energy and mines; Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister for home and religious affairs and for information and culture; Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command; Major General Thein Win, chief of staff of the Air Force; senior military officers; Mr. Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar; and departmental officials from the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor.

The minister is accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Khin Myint, officer special duty, and Captain Thein Lwin, personal aide of the minister.

Karen Rebels Destroy Bridges, Attack Ferry Boat

BK2104071691 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Text] While different levels of law and order restoration councils, in cooperation with the people, have been building or renovating roads and bridges to ease and secure public transport as one of three major tasks, insurgents continue to resort to all means to cause difficulties for the people. Accordingly, at about 2130 on 14 April, a small KNU [Karen National Union] unit destroyed two bridges on Mudon-Khale Tagundine road—the Minebon bridge was blown up with explosives and the Khinmya bridge was burned down. The insurgents later fled. Responsible officials and workers from the Mudon Township Construction Services are making urgent repairs. Defense Force columns are in pursuit of the fleeing insurgents.

Meanwhile, insurgents have been hampering and disrupting regional peace and tranquillity and intently killing innocent commuters by attacking them with small arms and RPG's.

Accordingly, at 1635 on 19 April, the Sithu ferry boat of the Inland Water Transport Service, which was enroute to Shwegun from Pa-an, was attacked by a small group of insurgents using light weapons and RPG's. As soon as the attack occurred, our security personnel on the ferry boat returned fire and forced the insurgents to retreat. Two innocent commuters were wounded by insurgent fire. They are U Mahn San Myint, 35, of Zidaw ward in Pa-an, and Maung Tin San, 28, of Duyinzeik village in Thaton. Defense Force columns are in pursuit of the fleeing insurgents.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Navy Detains SRV Boats for 'Illegal Fishing'

BK2104085891 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Apr 91

[Text] Two Vietnamese boats were detained by the Royal Malaysian Navy off the Terengganu coast yesterday for

illegal fishing. A marine police spokesman said the boats were detained 78 nautical miles from the coast together with 25 crew members. The 25 will be charged (?tomorrow).

Mahathir Move To Improve Australian Ties Hailed

BK1904111991 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Malaysian prime minister has made a gesture of goodwill toward Australia. He has offered to meet and to discuss frankly with the Australian prime minister the issue of relations between the two countries. This is a positive step. The Malaysian community and all who value good relations between Malaysia and Australia will welcome Dr. Mahathir's announcement.

The fact remains that relations between Malaysia and Australia touch on and concern so many aspects of life that cannot be ignored. It is not only at official or government level that there are contacts between Malaysians and Australians. There was a time when Australia was regarded with a measure of resentment by Malaysians because of the old notorious White Australia policy. That was during the colonial era. With the dawn of merdeka or independence, the Australian community too began to understand Malaysia better. Thousands of Malaysian students studying in Australia projected a very good image of Malaysia. They could and still do manage to hold their own in the competitive environment of Australian higher education. Also, the nature and ethnic composition of Australian society too has changed. Australia has become more multiethnic. Over the years, Malaysia has achieved a very remarkable economic progress. Trade with Australia has also grown in volume. Tourism has become an important link between the two countries.

Why then is there now a talk of strained relationship? There are sections of the Australian media that express anger and criticism if there are aspects of Malaysian policy that they cannot agree with. Perhaps, the most obvious example to cite is Malaysia's enforcement of a strict anti-drug law. Is it asking too much that those who have cultivated the drug habits or drug culture should not spread that way of life in Malaysia? After all, Malaysia is a sovereign independent nation. It has the right to formulate its own laws for its people. We expect respect for our laws just as we are expected to respect laws of other countries relating to immigration, trade, tax, and so on.

It is deeply observed that Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke himself is aware of this point. He has called on the Australian media to show more sensitivity toward countries which don't have the same historical backgrounds, institutions, and so on. Malaysia has every right to be concerned about the harm that destructive criticism could cause, particularly the potential adverse impact on investments. It is therefore right and proper for the two heads of government to hold heart-to-heart talks when they meet in June at an important Commonwealth Association event in London.

Deputy Premier Says Australia Seen as Friend

*BK2004135691 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service
in English 1330 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ghafar Baba said today he felt that envy could be one of the reasons which had strained relations between Australia and Malaysia. Australia, he said, may be envious because Malaysia, which had gained independence relatively later, had achieved much progress.

He was speaking to reporters after attending a Hari Raya [id al-fitr] get-together at the residence of Melaka State Legislative Assembly Speaker, Datuk Abu Zahar, this evening in Merlimau. He said Malaysia had never made enemies with any country including Australia, which it regarded as a friend.

Cambodia

Heng Samrin Visits Battambang Province 19-20 Apr

*BK2104072191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1100 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] On 19 April, a high-ranking delegation of the party and state led by Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State, paid a visit to Battambang Province.

Included in the delegation were Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chef de cabinet of the party Central Committee, and chairman of the Central Organization Commission; Comrade Dit Munti, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission, and first deputy foreign minister; Comrade Lieutenant General Nhim Vanda, member of the party Central Committee, trade minister, deputy defense minister, and chief of the Logistics Department; Comrade Yim Chhaili, member of the party Central Committee and health minister; Comrade Ros Sreng, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Pursat provincial party committee; Comrade Khim Bo, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Takeo provincial party committee; Comrade [name and title indistinct]; and Comrade Major General Loy Sophat, deputy interior minister.

Upon its arrival, the high-ranking party and state delegation was warmly received and welcomed by leading cadres of the party, state authorities, and mass organizations in Battambang Province; the comrade commanding officers of the 5th Military Region; and representatives of Army divisions.

During the stay in Battambang Province, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin inaugurated a building of the province's Army training school [passage indistinct] in the past dry season. Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin also visited and decorated Armed Forces' cadres and combatants who scored outstanding results in national defense tasks in the 1991 dry season campaign.

On the morning of 20 April, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin presided over a mass meeting to welcome units of the Armed Forces which have scored victories on the frontline. Afterward, the comrade general secretary visited and distributed gifts to sick and wounded cadres and combatants being treated in the 19 June hospital.

Everywhere the delegation went, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin praised and expressed moving sentiments and warmly placed his hope on the spirit of responsibility of cadres and combatants, state authorities and people in the entire province. Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin returned safely to Phnom Penh at 1500 in the afternoon of 20 April.

Heng Samrin Urges End to Conflict

*BK2204081791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Apr 91*

[Heng Samrin's speech at 20 April ceremony to welcome Battambang Province's army units returning from the front—recorded]

[Text] We meet today to most joyously welcome Armed Forces units which have returned from the front in Battambang Province, bringing along great victories for compatriots in Battambang Province as well as those throughout Cambodia celebrating the traditional new year of the goat.

On behalf of the party and state, and front delegation, and in my own name, I would like to express my most heartfelt joy in attending this most solemn ceremony. I also would like to warmly thank and welcome all units of our cadres and combatants from their victorious return from the battlefield. I sincerely thank all these units for their fighting spirit, courage, and brilliant victories in all past counteroffensives and sweeping operations.

I would like to express new year greetings to all cadres and combatants who have just returned from the front as well as all compatriots in Battambang Province. May all of you enjoy the best of health and all kinds of success in the new year. [applause]

Venerable monks, beloved comrades in arms, and compatriots: All of us still remember that at the beginning of the 1990-91 dry season, when international public opinion appealed to all warring factions in Cambodia for self-restraint and a moratorium on the use of military forces in order to advance a political solution to the Cambodian problem, the genocidal alliance launched an offensive of remarkable scale on our State of Cambodia. In the provinces adjacent to the Thai border, particularly in Battambang Province, the Polpotists used modern weaponry, including tanks and artillery, to attack our military and civilian targets, seriously damaging property and inflicting heavy losses of lives. They have done that in addition to their propaganda and intimidation campaigns to frighten our people into deserting Battambang Province. Despite all their headlong and adventurous attempts, the savage and cruel enemies have not been able to topple us. Our army cadres and combatants in Battambang Province, enjoying the assistance of the people from all strata and the

close cooperation of rear-line provinces, have tenaciously defended their villages, communes, and districts, thus enabling the population to live normally.

The victories of the cadres and combatants of Battambang Province and the 5th Military Region, together with the victories of the Armed Forces and people of other areas, are immensely significant, as they smashed the adventurous maneuvers of the genocidal alliance which attempted to expand the war peripheries at the beginning of the 1990-91 dry season. They constitute the success of the great solidarity of our entire Cambodian nation under the beacon of correct and fair party leadership and government of our State of Cambodia, which has fought for the interests and rebirth of the Cambodian people over the past 12 years and more.

The success of the 1990-91 dry season activities gave us good experiences and affirmed the truth that so long as we remain united under the party leadership and endure hardships together, Cambodia's forces will always have the possibility and ability to overcome whatever obstacles there are and accomplish the supreme interests of our motherland and people.

Venerable monks, beloved comrades-in-arms and compatriots, we are in a superior position as we are in control of the whole country and population. We want to end the war quickly to restore peace and happiness to the people. Our party and government have done their best to search for a political solution to the Cambodian conflict by making one concession after another. However, to date this problem has remained complex and arduous as the other Cambodian side has exploited our goodwill, thus creating obstacles to the search for peace.

In fact, after the big five—the permanent five members of the UN Security Council—elaborated the 26 November 1990 draft agreement, our party and government in goodwill and responsibility announced their acceptance of most of the points in the document and proposed further discussions of the remaining points on the grounds that they are closely related to the nation's fate and people's survival. For instance, the document does not mention any concrete measures to prevent the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. There are also the questions of respect for national sovereignty and the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people and respect for the UN Charter.

The principled stance of our party and government was clearly expounded at the recent extraordinary session of our National Assembly. Among other things, it called for the following:

1. A comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem that must clearly raise concrete measures to prevent the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, which is despised and feared by the Cambodian people in general.
2. The political and military status quo must be maintained in order to ensure a stable ambience for free and fair elections.
3. The important role of the United Nations in the political solution to the Cambodian problem must conform with

the UN Charter and the principle of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination.

The role to be played by the United Nations would be determined by the Supreme National Council.

For this reason, I would like to appeal from this podium to the other Cambodian side to immediately end their adventurous ambition through military means, display genuine goodwill to find a political solution, stop all hostilities against their own nation, and hurry to join the negotiating table in order to resume the negotiations aimed at immediately ending the national conflict and bringing about genuine peace for the motherland and people.

At the same time, I would like to appeal to our compatriots living abroad and in camps on Thai territory to do their best to support the stance of the State of Cambodia in the search for peace for the nation. In particular, the compatriots now working in the ranks of the other Cambodian side should place the national interest above all else, understand the suffering of the people and their own families, and follow the correct path by laying down arms, ceasing to cause destruction against their own people, and quickly returning to the nation's fold and their own families in order to join hands in national reconstruction.

Venerable monks, beloved comrades in arms, and compatriots, although it is undeniable that they have suffered setback after setback, so far there has been no sign that our enemies have given up their maneuvers and attempts to topple the State of Cambodia and bring the genocidal regime back to Cambodia. Therefore, for the time being it is imperative for the entire party, entire Armed Forces, and entire people to constantly raise their vigilance against all the perfidious tricks of the enemies at this time when no political solution is yet to be reached. It is imperative for us to join hands in undertaking the task of defending and rebuilding the motherland. It is important for us to unite and overcome all difficulties in order to achieve our noble objective.

For the immediate future, we must sharpen our determination to further develop the victories of the beginning of this dry season to successfully carry out our duties at the beginning of 1991. We must always closely adhere to the party's leading line, always remain steadfast toward developments in the situation, stay away from appeasement, not forget the dangers created by the genocidal alliance, not be afraid to hit back at the enemies' psychological warfare propaganda, and join hands in smashing enemy maneuvers in order to create favorable conditions for all sectors of society's life to proceed normally and grow steadily.

In particular, the comrades in arms who are cadres and combatants of the Armed Forces must continue to develop their traditional courage, strive to build all-round strong units, and always remain the sharpest and most trusted forces of our party, government, and people.

Once again, on behalf of the party, state, and front, I would like to welcome the victorious return of the cadres and combatants of all units. I wish all venerable monks,

comrades in arms, and compatriots in Battambang Province a long life and happiness in the new year and full successes in the tasks of 1991. [applause]

Government Troops 2 Km Away From Pailin

BK2004121991 Hong Kong AFP in English 1143 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 20 (AFP)—Lucrative gem mining has stopped at Pailin with Phnom Penh Government troops entrenched just two kilometres (one mile) from the border town, an official said here Saturday.

He also said Phnom Penh forces have captured intact four or five tanks from the Khmer Rouge resistance faction in Battambang Province about 10 days ago.

"No one controls Pailin ... It is a no man's land," the source said of the ruby centre some 80 kilometres (50 miles) west of Battambang, Cambodia's second largest city. He added that all mining had ceased in the Pailin District, a good change for the government as the Khmer Rouge made millions of dollars from licensing Thai and Burmese miners to hunt for gems in the area.

The small town was captured by guerrillas of the communist Khmer Rouge soon after the Vietnamese troop withdrawal of September 1989. The Khmer Rouge, former brutal rulers of Cambodia, are the strongest militarily of the three resistance factions.

The first news of heavy dry-season fighting in the Pailin District came in late March with reports saying that Phnom Penh was using MiG-21s and helicopter gunships to hit Khmer Rouge positions. Cambodians and diplomats here said in early April that the Khmer Rouge had pulled out of the Pailin District.

The guerrilla faction in turn reported heavy casualties inflicted on government forces, including knocking out many tanks.

But the Cambodian official here said Phnom Penh forces had stopped about two kilometres (one mile) from Pailin town. "It is easy for government troops to take Pailin, but difficult to hold onto," he added.

Pailin is hugged by jungle-clad hills, and the sole access and supply route from Battambang is easily ambushed. The Khmer Rouge can also fire artillery from and seek shelter in Thailand, some 10 kilometres (six miles) away.

The source also reported that Phnom Penh soldiers had captured "four or five" Khmer Rouge tanks in working order and knocked out another one about 10 days ago. He did not have details on the makes of the tanks or where exactly in the province they had been taken.

Battambang officials displayed a Chinese-made light tank and its cargo of four dead Khmer Rouge guerrillas at a new year fair during the past week.

Reports: Pailin Retaken

BK1904143091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1141 GMT 19 Apr 91

[By Leo Dobbs]

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, April 19 (AFP)—[Passage omitted] The Khmer Rouge are entrenched in the hills and forests along the border with Thailand and have long held the lucrative gem-mining town of Pailin, close to Thailand and some 80 kilometres (50 miles) west of Battambang.

But unconfirmed reports here and in Battambang indicate that the Phnom Penh Government has seized back the Pailin District.

The Battambang-based source said he had seen helicopters take off regularly from the city airport and head off towards the west.

Several sources here have said the Phnom Penh Government used its small air force of antiquated MiG-21 fighters and Soviet helicopters to beat back the guerrilla forces in Pailin District.

A Japanese film crew was reportedly taken to Treng, halfway between Battambang and Pailin, on an armoured personnel carrier about three weeks ago.

The Battambang witness said that the city had been peaceful for some weeks following shelling on parts of the town in February and that people were out in force to enjoy the new year holiday.

"Battambang is really peaceful ... Areas that were closed off are now open."

But fuel shortages were causing problems in Battambang, necessitating buying fuel on the black market.

The Khmer Rouge controlled Battambang until late January 1979, when they were pushed to the borders by Vietnamese troops.

The Vietnamese said they left Cambodia in late September 1989, although diplomatic sources say 8,000 to 10,000 troops remain.

Sources from Battambang say some Vietnamese-speakers wearing Cambodian army uniforms are found in city bars.

Further on SRV Envoy's Remarks at UN

BK2004035991 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Station article: "The Race-Exterminating Hanoi Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Have Openly Shown Their Ugly Faces Again"]

[Text] Trinh Xuan Lang, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors' permanent representative at the United Nations, recently stated with arrogance that the settlement of the Cambodian problem should be achieved based on the respect for Cambodia's sovereignty. The so-called respect for Cambodia's sovereignty was blown out of all proportion by the Vietnamese enemy who meant the sovereignty of the puppets that the Vietnamese enemy

aggressors shored up at gunpoint against the will of the Cambodian nation and people.

His remarks on the puppet sovereignty are:

1. To oppose the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC];
2. To preserve the regime of the lackey puppets in Phnom Penh;
3. To further hide, through the channel of their lackey puppet regime, Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia, including their invading troops and civilian administrators and over 1 million Vietnamese immigrants.

The lid of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors' ill-intention has been blown by the Cambodian people and the international community. So the Vietnamese can lead no one down the garden path anymore. The Cambodian people and the international community are exposing and condemning them from all directions. They are the bandit aggressors who have impinged upon Cambodia's sovereignty, exterminated the Cambodian race, and threatened peace and security in Southeast Asia. All have seen that Vietnam's continually stubborn invasion and occupation of Cambodia represent a great danger to the Cambodian nation and people as well as to the lasting peace, security, and stability in the whole region. This is why our Cambodian people and resistance forces and the international community have firmly stood by the five UNSC permanent members' document, which is the only means to bring the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia to a conclusion via a comprehensive political solution.

Pressure from inside and outside the country to force the Vietnamese enemies to accept the five UNSC permanent members' document is a staunch and zealous force because it illustrates the struggle carried on for over 12 years by the Cambodian people and the international community. Despite their all-out efforts, the Vietnamese enemies can never free themselves from the quagmire.

The Cambodian people and resistance forces are resolved to join forces with the international community in applying ever stronger pressure on the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their lackey puppets until they are forced to accept and implement the document of the five UNSC permanent members by totally withdrawing their aggressor forces from Cambodia with sincerity under the supervision and control of a UN transitional authority and a UN peacekeeping force.

Indonesia

Country To Join UN Peacekeeping Force in Iraq

*BK2004133091 Jakarta Domestic Service
in Indonesian 1200 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] Indonesia is one of 33 countries which will join a UN peacekeeping force operating along the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border. This is Indonesia's umpteenth participation in UN peacekeeping missions, the latest being a peacekeeping and election-monitoring mission in Namibia. Speaking in New York yesterday, a UN spokesman said the majority of the

300-strong peacekeeping force is expected to be deployed along the 200-km-long Iraqi-Kuwaiti border next week.

The UN peacekeeping force will be assisted by a 300-member engineering unit whose task is to clear mines. This unit will in turn be supported by 700 infantrymen from the UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon and Cyprus.

Armed Forces Commander on Grenade Blast in Aceh

*BK1804123291 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST
in English 9 Apr 91 p 1*

[Text] Jakarta (JP) [JAKARTA POST]—Armed Forces Commander Gen. Try Sutrisno yesterday confirmed reports that grenade blasts killed a guard at the residence of the Aceh police chief last Saturday.

Speaking to reporters after reporting to President Suharto on the plan to move the Air Force Headquarters from Pancoran to Cilangkap, Gen. Try said, however, that the explosion had nothing to do with rebel movements.

Meanwhile Armed Forces spokesman Brig. Gen. Nurhadi Purwosaputro told THE JAKARTA POST that a thorough investigation was underway. "But it was not easy for us to identify those who were responsible or the motive for the blast," Nurhadi said.

Police sources said that two unidentified people on a motorcycle threw a grenade at Col. Syafuan's house in Jl. [street] Iskandar Muda 45, Banda Aceh, from around two meters away. They escaped, and a police sergeant on duty that night, Samson Purba, died in the blast. "The police chief and his family were safe," the police officer, who asked not to be identified, told the POST yesterday.

Col. Syafuan assumed his post as Aceh police chief on Jan. 19, 1991. Before he was transferred there Syafuan was head of the social affairs division of the national police headquarters in Jakarta. It is his first post in the northern Sumatra province.

General Try said that he could not be certain of the identities of the two men who threw the grenade at Syafuan's house. "There are many possibilities. Anyone who did not like him (Syafuan) could have done that," he said.

Daily Says Democratic Forum Not Necessary

*BK2104134691 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES
in English 8 Apr 91 p 2*

[Text] Abdurrahman Wahid, the celebrated Indonesian intellectual, and a few friends last week took the surprise step of creating a new independent group called Forum Demokrasi (Democratic Forum). Speaking as its leader, Abdurrahman said the founding of the group was motivated by concern about certain existing negative tendencies within the Indonesian society.

Briefly, what are the background and aims of Forum Demokrasi (FD)? Its founders are unhappy with the kind of individual and group, including sectarian, interests which they see growing in the nation. For example, they are criticising the enthusiasm which greeted the setting up

of community associations on the basis of provincial or ethnic affiliations. Also, religious groups are being created and taking the form of exclusive units.

These are serious indictments. Indeed, when such activities are examined from a negative, skeptical perspective as being contrary to the basic ideals and goals of the Republic of Indonesia, then they are not right and should be discredited. No doubt they could weaken or even jeopardise national unity and integration.

Having reviewed the situation as they saw it, FD's founders reasoned that the time has come to reinforce the nation's commitment to unity and union, presumably as FD is doing by bringing together all elements and groups into its fold. It is hoped that FD would become a vehicle for moving national integration forward and in the process succeed in eliminating any grouping that displays a sectarian face.

Despite this noble purpose, the birth of the new group immediately generates a public debate. On the substantive side, historically Indonesians began their national struggle by forming ethnic and religious groups to develop the people's national consciousness, sense of pride and education. Such groups or associations should definitely be judged according to what they strive for rather than by their appearances.

Ethnic organisations could and should have the general interests as their basic goal. A few may not pass this qualification. However, it would be a great folly if all ethnic associations were to be labeled undemocratic societal units.

The question is what should be done if there are, as Abdurrahman Wahid and his friends have assured themselves they see, tendencies within some ethnic or religious groups that may be harmful to the ideals of the Indonesian state?

While we can say that the relevant government bodies should know or be informed accordingly, we prefer to state nonetheless that we have confidence in the progress and strength of our state. Outside the government, apart from members which should be responsible for improving and consolidating their organisations from within, there are also the press which would always welcome serious analyses from Intellectuals like Abdurrahman Wahid.

The final question then is, is FD really necessary? We don't think so, because there are other ways to achieve such aims.

Daily Questions Motives of Democratic Forum

*BK1904104791 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
11 Apr 91 p 5*

[Editorial: "Maintaining National Consensus"]

[Text] The birth of a forum called the "Forum Demokrasi" [Democratic Forum] was certainly politically motivated. Thus, it must have political objectives.

Like it or not, it is normal for many parties to doubt the forum's objectives, although its leader maintains that it is

no more than a foundation or an informal club. This is because, empirically, any movement regardless of its name has political connotations.

Let's say that the forum is a moral force [preceding two words in English]. It will eventually become a mass movement that could serve as a pressure group [preceding two words in English]. Our bureaucracy has already had such experiences.

Regardless of its name, the forum established by persons known by the Indonesian bureaucracy will affect the country politically. Those who established the forum are known to be vocal in airing their views and proposals. Accordingly, Indonesians who still maintain a culture "where one is expected to put oneself in the other person's place" regard what they have said and proposed as something un-Indonesian. Let's say that it is something "alien" to Indonesians.

Based on the Pancasila culture, the political thinking of the intellectual elite seems to be new and strange. Their proposals and thinking tend to serve individual rather than collective interests. Accordingly, if this compromise offered by Home Affairs Minister Rudini and Harisugiman, director general for sociopolitical affairs of the Home Affairs Department, is accepted, it means that the forum will automatically "die just after being born." Why not?

The conditions set by the director general are very strict. The forum must change its name. It is not to be institutionalized and its activities are to be manifested in open seminars, workshops, symposiums, or discussions. The forum is not to be involved in political activities or to become an opposition group. It is not a democratic institution in addition to existing ones, but is one of them.

The results of its seminars, workshops, symposiums, or discussions will be channeled through the existing democratic institutions. If these "five no's" are met by its sponsor, it will be clear how its political objectives are to be met. Therefore, it is logical that some of the forum's founders have proposed that it be dissolved rather than to let it live "pathetically." If all parties base their thinking on the existing national consensus, the mechanism of political activities will be clear.

Parties cannot deviate from the political mechanism of the three political organizations officially recognized by the government. Every proposal and idea must eventually be channeled through the three organizations. Deviating from the existing political mechanism will amount to "violating the national consensus" reached through the People's Consultative Assembly. Any political maneuver tantamount to an effort to change the "national consensus" must not be conducted outside existing limits. Willingly or not, they must return to the three political organizations officially recognized by the government and all Indonesians. This is the Constitution.

Thus, if Democratic Forum members intend to strive to give greater weight to the democratic life of Indonesians, they must do so by democratizing the existing democratic institutions instead of establishing a new group or forum.

Indeed, it is not clear which social group, the elite or the masses, the Democratic Forum represents. Aren't they already represented in the existing sociopolitical and mass organizations? Thus, the founders' actions have been contradictory as they have maintained an undemocratic political platform while intending to democratize other members of the society.

Suppose the Democratic Forum represents only individuals. Can it be guaranteed that their attitude and action will be democratic? Where do their democratic values lie? Didn't the birth of the forum itself suggest the existence of undemocratic values? In other words, the elite group assumes that they and the ordinary people have different values. They consider themselves special in society. Is such an attitude democratic?

So, let's return to the national consensus of the original platform. It is a consensus based on the importance of democracy originating from the people, by the people, and for the people and not merely for those who consider themselves special.

Laos

Ministry Signs Cooperation Protocol With SRV

*BK2104113891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] The Lao Ministry of Information and Culture and SRV Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports, and Tourism signed a cooperation protocol during a ceremony at Lan Xang Hotel in Vientiane yesterday evening. The protocol prescribes the exchange of visits of high-level delegations, technical and cultural cooperation, and the sending of art troupes to perform on special occasions in the two countries. Signing the protocol on the Lao side was Minister Son Khamvanvongsa, and Minister Tran Hoan on the Vietnamese side.

During the 8-day visit to Laos, the delegation of the SRV Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports, and Tourism called on Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit, and Somlat Chanthamat, head of the party Central Committee propaganda and training board, and held consultative meetings with the Lao agencies concerned. The delegation also visited a number of ancient places in southern provinces before returning home today.

SRV Justice Ministry Delegation Begins Visit

*BK1904102291 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Yesterday morning the delegation of the SRV Justice Ministry led by Justice Minister Phan Hien arrived in Vientiane to pay a friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and to carry out work with the delegation of the LPDR Justice Ministry. For example, the two sides will discuss and consult with each other on cooperation plans on justice and court work for the 1991-92 period. At the same time, they will draw lessons together on implementation of cooperation work in the

past several years with a view toward stimulating and promoting the role of the justice ministries.

Welcoming the delegation at Wattai Airport were LPDR Justice Minister Kou Souvannamethi and high-level chairmen of various committees in the ministry. SRV Ambassador to Laos Nguyen Xuan was also on hand to welcome the delegation. The delegation is scheduled to pay a 1-week visit to Laos.

Meets With Lao Delegation

*BK2004131191 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT
20 Apr 91*

[Text] Vientiane, April 20 (KPL)—The delegations of the Ministries of Justice of Laos and Vietnam headed by their respective ministers Kou Souvannamethi and Phan Hien met at Lane Xang Hotel yesterday morning.

The sides informed each other of activities related to judicial matter, assessed the state of cooperation between the two ministries for better future operation.

The Vietnamese delegation arrived here on April 18 for a one-week long visit to Laos.

Reportage on Phoun Sipaseut's Trip to Thailand

Confers Medal on Thai Princess

*BK1904110991 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0500 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] On the evening of 17 April at the Borom Phiman Throne Hall at the Royal Grand Palace in Bangkok, Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and head of the delegation of the LPDR Government, presented the Decoration of Honor Medal, the highest order of the LPDR, to Her Royal Highness [HRH] Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand on her 36th birthday.

In his address delivered at the conferment, Phoun Sipaseut pointed out that the princess has made both verbal and concrete contributions to strengthening the friendship and relations of brotherliness and neighborliness between Laos and Thailand. The vice chairman of the Council of Ministers expressed confidence that the Decoration of Honor Medal would become a bond of lasting friendship and affection between the Lao and Thai peoples.

Acting on behalf of the Lao Government and people on the occasion of the traditional Lao and Thai new year, Phoun Sipaseut also expressed best wishes to His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet, her majesty the queen, HRH Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, and all members of the Royal Family, wishing them happiness, long life, and prosperity. At the same time, he also expressed hope that the brotherly friendship and good neighborliness between the Kingdom of Thailand and the LPDR will last forever.

After the completion of the ceremony, HRH Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon kindly hosted a dinner for the Lao delegation.

Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin accompanied the Lao delegation in conferring the medal on HRH the princess.

Meets With Thai King, Queen

*BK1904144891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] On 18 April, Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, foreign affairs minister, and head of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] government delegation, together with his wife and entourage, was granted an audience by His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet and her majesty the queen at the Dusit Palace after the Lao Government delegation had presented the Honor Medal, the highest order of the LPDR, to Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand.

On this auspicious occasion, Phoun Sipaseut, speaking on behalf of the Lao Government and people, expressed best wishes to their majesties the king and queen as well as all members of the Royal Family, wishing them happiness, long life, and prosperity so they will forever remain the mainstay of the brotherly friendship and good neighborliness between Thailand and Laos.

Meets With Thai Foreign Minister

*BK1904152491 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 April at the Foreign Ministry of the Kingdom of Thailand, a meeting was held between Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

The meeting between the host and guest proceeded under a good atmosphere of brotherliness. The two sides consulted with each other on relations between the two countries—for example, the appointment of the governmental-level joint commissions and the border security-maintenance committees and a new direction for resolving and improving efficiency in the economic relations between the two countries. In addition, the two sides discussed some remaining problems between the two countries, the question of Lao refugees still remaining in Thailand, and the problem of elements who create disturbances along the Lao-Thai border.

Returns From Visit 20 Apr

*BK2204060091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0500 GMT 22 Apr 91*

[Text] On the afternoon of 20 April, the delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] Government delegation led by Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister, returned to Vientiane by a special plane after ending its visit to the Kingdom of Thailand at the invitation of the Thai Government to confer the Medal of Honor, the highest order of the LPDR, on Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand on the occasion of

her 36th birthday and for her virtuous contributions to strengthening the friendship and brotherly and neighborly relations between Thailand and Laos.

Welcoming the delegation at Wattai Airport were Khamtai Siphandon, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and national defense minister; Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army and chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane Municipality; and many ministers and vice ministers. Nikhom Tantemsap, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Laos, was also on hand at the airport to welcome the delegation.

During its four-day visit to the Kingdom of Thailand, Phoun Sipaseut and his entourage were granted an audience by His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet and her majesty the queen at the Dusit Palace; paid a courtesy call on Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, at the Thai Khufa Government House; called on General Sunthon Khongsomphong, military supreme commander and chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC], and General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander in chief and vice chairman of the NPKC; and held talks with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin.

PASASON Hails Visit

*BK2004104691 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[PASASON 19 April article: "Lao-Thai Friendship and Cooperation Will Develop on the Basis of Actual Deeds"]

[Text] A delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] led by Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister, on 17 April left Vientiane for Bangkok for a 4-day friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand at the invitation of the Thai Government. During the visit, Phoun Sipaseut will, on behalf of the LPDR Government, confer the Medal of Honor, the highest distinction of the LPDR, on Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon. The LPDR Government delegation will also be granted an audience with His Majesty the King of the Kingdom of Thailand at the Dusit Palace. Phoun Sipaseut is also scheduled to hold talks with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin on various bilateral problems.

The LPDR delegation's visit is a good and meaningful omen for the further strengthening of the long-existing friendly and good-neighborly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples and expansion of cooperation in different areas between the two countries. Generally speaking, the new atmosphere of Lao-Thai relations has evolved since the signing of the joint communique dated 25 November 1988 by the prime ministers of the two countries. Since then, the development of relations between the two countries has been based on mutual understanding and respect. The said Lao-Thai joint communique stipulates the basic principles of Lao-Thai relations and has been implemented step by step.

Since Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon's visit to Laos in March 1990, officials of the two countries have regularly met at national, regional, government, and private levels. These events further contributed to the improvement of relations between the two countries.

The visit to Laos by General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander and vice chairman of the National Peace-keeping Assembly of the Kingdom of Thailand, in early March and his meeting with Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army, resulted in a bilateral agreement on the withdrawal of troops from Na Banoi Canton of Boten District and three villages in Paklai District of Sayaboury Province—the hot points along the Lao-Thai border, thus turning the Lao-Thai border into a border of peace, friendship, and peaceful coexistence in line with the aspiration of the Lao and Thai people and the general trend of the present era. During the meeting, the two sides also pledged to make joint efforts in solving the remaining problems in connection with relations between the two countries. This is new praiseworthy progress in Lao-Thai relations and courageous on the part of General Suchinda Khraprayun in solving the protracted problems.

Although relations and cooperation between the two countries in the past years showed a positive trend on the basis of actual deeds in many aspects, some fundamentally important problems have not yet been practically solved to eliminate mutual suspicion and promote mutual trust. Such problems, including the reduction of taxes on trade and goods in transit, dubious demarcation lines, refugee problems, and the question of exiled Lao reactionaries, have not yet been settled. They irritate the Lao and Thai peoples who want to see a brighter future for relations and cooperation between their two countries.

The Lao people hope that the visit to the Kingdom of Thailand by the LPDR Government delegation will help bring new progress in the improvement of relations between the two countries and mark a new step in the strengthening of traditional relations and cooperation between the two countries for the common interest of the two peoples and countries.

LPA Delegation Returns From Cambodia 17 Apr

*BK1904112391 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 April, the delegation of the Lao People's Army [LPA] General Political Department led by Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, vice minister of national defense, and chief of the LPA General Political Department, returned to Vientiane after successfully ending a seven-day friendship visit to the State of Cambodia at the invitation of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF].

During its visit to the State of Cambodia from 10 to 17 April 1991, the delegation paid courtesy calls on Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the State

Council of the State of Cambodia, and on Comrade Tie Banh, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense of the State of Cambodia. It also attended a meeting to exchange experiences on party and political work between the Lao and Cambodian Armies, and visited the CPAF Political School and a number of military units, popular foundations, and economic foundations. The delegation participated in the traditional new year celebrations with the Cambodian people at many places, especially at the State of Cambodia National Defense Ministry in Phnom Penh on 13 April.

During its stay, the delegation was accorded a warm welcome by all Cambodian party and state leaders, the National Defense Ministry, the CPAF General Political Department, military units, popular foundations, and economic foundations it visited.

56 'Misled' Hmongs Return to Vientiane Province

*BK2104123891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Fifty-six misled Hmong tribal people recently returned to their home in Saisomboun District of Vientiane Province so as to start a new life under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. The Hmong fraternal people decided to report themselves to the revolutionary administration after they had learned about the dark schemes of the bad elements and bandits who had misinformed them about the party's and state's lines and policies. Apart from that, the difficult living conditions and poverty they encountered convinced them of the cunning nature of those bad elements.

Upon their arrival in the district, the said Hmong compatriots were warmly welcomed by the authorities and people. A plan is being implemented to allocate cultivating areas for them to enable them to improve their livelihood step by step.

It was also reported that Comrade Si Bountham, chairman of the Administrative Committee of Saisomboun District, on 12 April handed salt, detergents, puddings, needles, and other essential commodities worth over 30,000 kip to the Hmong compatriots.

Philippines

Aquino Hopes for New Bases Treaty Before Sep

*OW2104111391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1053 GMT
21 Apr 91*

[Text] Manila, April 21 KYODO—Philippine President Corazon Aquino on Sunday expressed hopes that despite delays in their negotiations, the Philippines and the United States could sign a new agreement on the continued stay of U.S. bases in the country before the present lease expires in September.

In her weekly radio program, Aquino also denied there was a deadlock in the negotiations, saying the Philippines was merely waiting for the U.S. response to Manila's reiterated demand for an 825 million dollar annual compensation

package in return for a seven-year treaty. "We are awaiting a response to that and I'm still very hopeful that we will come to an agreement before September 1991," she said.

The U.S. has offered 360 million dollars yearly for allowing the two major U.S. military bases in the Philippines to stay on for the next 10 years. It has already agreed to turn four smaller installations back to the Philippines before September.

When asked about reports that the Philippines has agreed to tie the bases compensation to the Multilateral Assistance Program (MAI) for the Philippines, Aquino said this cannot be done since, from the beginning, the MAI was clearly a separate program. The U.S. had earlier tried to sweeten its compensation offer to 520 million dollars by adding in its 160 million dollar commitment to the economic reconstruction program, but the Philippines rejected the move.

Aquino added that once the treaty is signed, the government would launch a public information drive on its provisions and would campaign for its ratification by the Senate. Under the Constitution, any treaty on the bases will have to get past the 23-member Senate.

'Official' Sees 10-Year Pact on Bases Retention

HK2204054791 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 22 Apr 91 p 1

[By Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The Philippines will give in to the U.S. demand for a ten-year stay at Clark and Subic, an official close to Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos recently disclosed.

In order to "sugar-coat" the panel's capitulation to the American position, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus is expected to stress that it is essentially the Philippine position of "seven years duration but with an additional three years for "dismantling," the source said. "These talks have gone on long enough, it's time to wrap them up," he said.

Another Palace source said the U.S. Embassy had asked Mr Orbos to clarify "who it is exactly they should talk to" in regard to the bases. "That's one more thing that complicates the talks," a U.S. Embassy official admitted. "We don't know who we should talk to... is it Manglapus, (Finance Secretary Jesus) Estanislao or (Rep Jose) Joe de Venecia?" Mr Orbos reportedly responded that Mr Manglapus is still the lead negotiator.

However, a DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] official close to Mr Manglapus said that "Malacanang is directly calling the shots now." That could mean it is Mr Orbos himself who has the last say.

Expressing confidence that a Philippine-American Cooperation Treaty can be concluded soon, a U.S. diplomat averred that the final outcome "would be closer to our position than to the Philippines'." He was deeply concerned that "this could result in a lot of bitterness."

Article on U.S. Withdrawal From Camp John Hay

HK2204055291 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English
22 Apr 91 pp 1, 10

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Some 300 Filipino base workers at Camp John Hay technically lost their jobs last Thursday as the Americans prepared for their withdrawal from the large rest and recreation facilities in Baguio City.

The early withdrawal of the Americans from John Hay has caused widespread apprehension among workers, city officials and residents around the base. The prospects of losing their jobs despite assurances from Aquino administration officials that they could continue their services during the transition period and would be given priority in employment when a new management group takes over have kept them worrying. Residents in at least 11 communities around the base were also worried that their homes would be demolished once new investors come in and develop the military base into a commercial and business center.

City officials, on the other hand, wanted active involvement in the planning and development of the base because of huge revenues expected to be generated from the converted facility. Baguio City Councilor Eduardo Aguilar had presented a number of resolutions opposing military use of the base and seeking wider local government participation in the development of the baselands.

The main consideration is the preservation of its forest and watershed areas, which is vital to the survival of Baguio City as a major tourist destination in the country. "John Hay is viewed as the lifeblood of Baguio, being a watershed, green area and a tourist recreational area," the Legislative and Executive Bases Council (LEBC) study on John Hay's future uses said. Many people have doubted the government's capabilities to operate and maintain the facility because of its failure to handle the turnover of the U.S. communications station in Tarlac last year.

"Hindi naman talaga kami takot na mawala ang mga Amerikano dito," [We are not afraid of the Americans' pullout here] Floyd Zaguirre, a barangay official told the CHRONICLE. "Takot lang kami sa maaring conversion plan, dahil baka hindi lang trabaho ang mawala sa amin, baka pati itong bahay namin." [But we are concerned about the possible conversion plan, because we might not just lose our jobs, we may also lose our houses]. The 11 communities have a population of about 25,000 squatting within John Hay's forest reservation areas.

Illegal logging is another problem. Three weeks ago, soldiers guarding the base perimeter caught a group of illegal loggers only days after government authorities had announced their plans to take over the base in July this year. At least six areas around the base have been identified as areas highly vulnerable to squatters' invasion and illegal-logging operations. These areas include the populated areas in Hillside, Greenwater, Scout Barrio and Upper Dagsian in the western part of the base; the Happy Hollow and Baguio Country Club in the north and eastern part of the base; and the Apugan area in the south where

workers from the Baguio Export Processing Zone (BEPZ) have begun putting up shanties. Another vulnerable area is the 80-ha forest-reservation area in Camp 7 in Benguet, where the Americans have constructed a mini-hydroelectric plant.

Baguio City residents have more to worry about the preservation of watershed areas in John Hay than employment and housing problems. The Watershed area in Upper Taguian supplies water to more than 11,000 residents in villages around the base and in the nearby villages in Itogon in Benguet. The 263-ha forest lands within the base, which comprise 71% of the entire land in use, contribute to at least 30% of the forest cover in the city.

"The importance of preserving the watershed areas supercedes the financial gains that can be derived from massive real-estate development if the base would be privatized," Horacio Ramos, the regional director of the Cordillera Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro), said. "Umaasa lang ang Baguio sa mga puno. 'Pag nawala iyan, baka mawala na rin pati ang Baguio." [Baguio is dependent on these trees. If they disappear, Baguio itself may disappear.]

Geometric degradation of forest and watershed areas in the city has already caused tremendous water shortage during summer. The city's weather conditions had also warmed up because trees were slowly giving way to new subdivisions, hotels and other real-estate projects.

Ramos said the role of the Cenro in the conversion of John Hay Air Station into a viable tourist destination area is to preserve and protect the forest and watershed areas as well as expand the forest lands. He said the conversion plan prepared by the Legislative-Executive Bases Council headed by UP [University of the Philippines] President Jose Abueva proposed to turn large areas in John Hay into forest reservation areas and research center for Cordillera culture and forestry products.

Columnist: Singapore Not Source of Bases Problem

HK2204054591 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 22 Apr 91 p 10

[From "Turn of Events" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "Why Single Out Singapore?"]

[Text] Singapore has been a good and friendly neighbor. But it suffers from too much seriousness and candor. On his recent visit to Manila, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong gave his host a sample of these everyday qualities when he expressed his upbeat view on the U.S. military facilities at Clark and Subic while the Philippine and U.S. panels lay deadlocked in their negotiations. He said the bases have been good, and would continue to be good, for the region.

Surprisingly, the best known spokesmen of the anti-bases bloc did not react too strongly to that statement. But Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, answering questions about his ideas as a possible presidential candidate, dismissed it as "nonsense." This was quickly followed by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus announcing that a unit of the Royal Singapore Air Force stationed inside Clark Air Base would have to pull out

after the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases agreement expires "on September 16, 1991."

Why single out Singapore? The air forces of Australia, Canada and Thailand, like the Singaporean air force, also conduct bombing practice in the Crow Valley Weapons Range. In fact, the complaint from some members of Congress is that the U.S. government has been collecting fees from these third-countries for their use of Crow Valley without turning over such fees to the Philippine government. These countries will all be as affected by the termination of the agreement, but the fact that Singapore is being singled out for prior notice is a curious point. Our unavoidable conclusion is that the government regards Singapore's pronouncements on the bases as some kind of unwelcome "backseat driving" during the negotiations.

The Philippine government has every right to deny use of any of its bases to any third-country, even as it allows the U.S. forces unhampered operations. But to suddenly deny use of the gunnery range to a friendly ASEAN neighbor and partner that had been allowed to use it for years without a single unpleasant or untoward incident would be most unsporting. Mangalpus says this would be purely in keeping with the constitutional provision which provides that after the expiration of the 1947 RP-U.S. agreement, "foreign military bases, troops or facilities shall not be allowed in the Philippines except under a treaty duly concurred in by the Senate and, when the Congress so requires, ratified by a majority of the votes cast by the people in a national referendum held for that purpose, and recognized as a treaty by the other contracting State."

But this would be an unduly strict and restrictive interpretation. The provision is popularly understood to mean that after the present agreement is terminated, no foreign military bases, troops or facilities may be allowed to exist in the country for a fixed number of years, except under a treaty. This provision merely underlines the Constitution's preference for a treaty to a simple executive agreement, like the present one.

The record of the constitutional commission should show that this provision has specific reference to the U.S. military facilities. It does not contemplate a ban on the occasional stationing of friendly foreign troops, as may be necessitated by any program of cooperation with our neighbors, for the purpose of conducting training exercises in any of our Philippine bases. Were the provision to be interpreted the way Manglapus wants it interpreted, there would be no room for the Philippines now or in the future taking part in a multinational military exercise inside Philippine territory. Certainly, such interpretation is absurd.

The Aquino government's problem on the bases is not coming from Singapore. The problem is all self-inflicted, a product of sheer incompetence; it would be wrong to take it out on the small but prosperous city-state. Mrs. Aquino spent the first four years of her presidency dodging the question of the bases and telling the world that she was keeping her options open on a new agreement. This encouraged such "free thinking" on the issue within her

government that today the anti-bases bloc has more votes than she has in the administration-controlled Senate. Most of these are her own political allies, on whom she does not have the will or the courage to crack the whip.

Instead of going through the necessary labor of convincing the members of the Senate to support her position, which is what any Chief Executive worth his name will do, she has decided to "consult" the people on the new treaty, as soon as it is concluded. The obvious tack is to play "the people," whom she expects will endorse a new treaty, against its enemies in the Senate. This proposed exercise provokes a constitutional question, since the Constitution specifically provides that a new bases treaty may be submitted to the people in a referendum, when the Congress so requires, after and only after it has been submitted to the Senate for concurrence. And Mrs. Aquino fully intends to "consult" the people on the treaty before she submits it to the Senate.

Every deceitful excuse is being used to justify this "consultation." But nothing that has been said has succeeded in giving it an honest face. It is a con game and no disguise can mask it. Indeed, while Mrs. Aquino sounds so eager to find out what the people are thinking on this complex issue which only a few of them understand, she has found no need to consult them on a number of equally, if not far more, important questions. In fact, she did not think it necessary to consult, or even advise beforehand, the senior military officers who would be bypassed by Army Chief Maj. Gen. (now Lt. Gen.) Lisandro Abadia in her latest appointment of an Armed Forces chief of staff. So much for faith in consultations.

Aquino Voices 'Sadness' Over Impeachment Threat

HK2004080791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] President Aquino today expressed sadness over the reported plan by Senator Tanada to file complaints of impeachment against her if she holds a national consultation for a possible military bases agreement. Assistant Press Secretary Lourdes Siytangco reads the president's statement:

[Begin recording in English] Actually, they will definitely have to be submitted to the Senate for its concurrence in accordance with the Constitution. But I see no prohibition in the Constitution from informing our people and discussing with them such an important matter that would affect them and their future. [end recording]

Radio Reports Air Force 'Turnover Ceremony'

HK2004073991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Apr 91

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Excerpts] Outgoing Air Force Chief Gerardo Protacio formally turned over his post to Brigadier General Loven Abadia. The turnover ceremony was held at Villamor Air Base following the appointment of Abadia by the president as the new chief of the Air Force.

Loven Abadia, who belongs to the class of 1960, is the older brother of the new AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief, Lisandro Abadia. Prior to his appointment as the new Air Force chief, Abadia was the former deputy vice chief of staff of the Air Force.

Earlier, Protacio said he is hoping that there will be no problem with the appointment of Loven Abadia because he is the one most qualified for the position. The turnover ceremony also signalled the formal retirement of General Protacio from the services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. In relation to this, Armed Forces Chief Lieutenant General Lisandro Abadia stated today that the appointment of his older brother, Major General Loven Abadia, as the new Air Force chief will surely create another round of debate and controversy.

In his speech during the turnover ceremony in Villamor Air Base, Abadia said that the issue that will surface this time is their relation and not the issue on presidential prerogative. But General Lisandro Abadia clarified that this issue has long been resolved since the AFP promotions board reaffirmed that personal qualifications and credentials based on merit and experience and not their relationship was the deciding factor. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Abadia announced plans to modernize the Philippine Air Force to make its air support effective in any encounter, because it will be the main branch of the AFP in maintaining peace and order and defending the country from external threat. Abadia expressed firm confidence in the capability of the new Philippine Air Force commanding general due to his qualifications and substantive knowledge of how to lead the Philippine Air Force.

On the same occasion, General Lisandro Abadia called for the redirection of policy so as to enhance the operations of the Philippine Air Force through well-trained pilots and ground personnel. [passage omitted]

According to Abadia, in spite of our financial difficulties, we should have new war planes and helicopters in order to possess a credible air force. This is the very first time in the 91-year history of the AFP that two brothers have held such sensitive positions. According to the younger Abadia, their being brothers was just incidental, and they promised to discharge their duties and responsibilities to completely improve the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

New Air Force Chief Reveals Modernization Plans

HK2204055191 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 22 Apr 91 p 7

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Military planners are drawing up a counter-trade and transfer of technology scheme to acquire at least two squadrons of multi-role fighters under its proposed P [Philippine peso] 43 billion integrated air defense systems (AIDS) program.

Major General Loven Abadia, the Air Force chief, told THE CHRONICLE that the scheme involved a 15% down-payment and 8% per annum interest on amortization programmed not to exceed the P6 billion a year capital

outlay for the next 10 years. He said the scheme also offered a low 10.2% dollar outflow because a co-production proposal which would generate jobs and help the country's aerospace industries.

Camp Aguinaldo sources said technical evaluation of at least seven models of sophisticated multi-role fighters bombers and interceptors from five Allied countries are being prepared. Among the models being studied are the American-made F-5E and F-16 which most ASEAN countries have in their air force inventories; the French Mirage 2000 and Mirage F-1 which are popular in Middle East countries; the British AV-8 Harrier which saw action during the Falklands; the British-Italian Tomado which was used by the Allied forces during the Gulf War, and the Israeli Kfir C7 aircraft. The country already has an inventory of the earlier model of the F-5 and are planning to sell the F-8 "Crusaders" to raise more money for the modernization program.

Apart from the acquisition of fighters, Abadia revealed plans to install seven three-dimensional radar systems, at least 10 two-structure digital tripolink and microwave communications systems, development of three more major air bases in northern Luzon, Bicol and southeastern Mindanao and the creation of a missile squadron.

"We are not competing with our neighbors nor joining any arms race in the region," he said. "We only want to have a credible air force to project power in the country's vast maritime borders."

The Philippine Air Force remained the weakest and the oldest in terms of armaments and equipment in the six-nation ASEAN. Although Brunei has the least number of personnel and equipment, it has modern and sophisticated armaments and air defense systems.

New Army Chief To Intensify Anti-NPA Drive

HK2204054291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 Apr 91 pp 1, 26

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Maj. Gen. Arturo Enrile, new Army chief, has expressed optimism that the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) will crush the communist rebellion before the 1992 deadline set by President Aquino as he announced the reactivation of the elite Army Scout Rangers.

Enrile said that in line with his new set of priorities focusing on combat training for troops, the Army is expected to intensify its offensive operations on the remaining "hot beds" of the New People's Army (NPA) in the Cordillera region, Negros island and several areas of northeastern Mindanao.

Dubbed as "internalization process," Enrile said that Army soldiers will undergo periodic retraining on combat skills more often with the increased pool of instructors combined with the lectures by seasoned field commanders on gainful missions against the NPA rebels. Enrile said that he will push through with the efforts of new AFP chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, in reactivating the Scout Rangers regiment, the Army's elite strike force. The

Scout Rangers was disbanded by then Army chief Maj. Gen. Manuel Cacanando after their involvement in the December 1989 failed coup attempts.

After undergoing reorientation on professionalism and loyalty to the Constitution, Enrile said that the Scout Rangers should be reactivated to counter the guerrilla warfare tactics of NPA rebels even in the remotest barangays. He said that the Army is also expected to beef up the strength of its Special Forces from 3,000 to 5,000 to supervise the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGU) units in the countryside.

NPA Said Collecting Taxes From Drug Traffickers

HK2004081791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Large sums of money representing tax payments are being collected by the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [NPA] from the planters of marijuana and drug traffickers in Cordillera.

This was reported by Narcotics Command [NarCom] Chief Joe Mayo Jr. to Philippine National Police [PNP] General Cesar Nazareno. According to Mayo, 20 percent of the total gross income of the marijuana cultivators and traffickers goes to the NPA rebels.

In relation to this, Mayo estimated that about 552 million Philippine pesos worth of marijuana was confiscated by narcotics command agents in Capangan, Benguet, and Santol, La Union, last week. The operation was jointly undertaken by NarCom and Benguet PNP command and the 205th Helicopter Wing of the Philippine Air Force. Because of this, Mayo said that the NPA lost 4.5 million pesos in taxes as a result of the operations by the authorities.

Thailand

Apr Trade Talks With U.S. 'Last Ditch Effort'

BK2004020991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Apr 91 p B1

[By Achara Phongwuttitham]

[Text] Phatchara Itsarasena, permanent secretary for commerce, will lead a delegation for talks with the US Trade Representative [USTR] Sandra Kristoff in Amsterdam between April 21-24, in a last ditch effort to prevent Thailand being placed on the US priority foreign country watchlist.

The USTR has to decide by April 26, whether to upgrade Thailand's status as a country on the priority watchlist, subject to regular review of its policy and practices on intellectual property protection. The upgrading would allow the USTR to initiate retaliatory action against Thailand.

On April 18, Thailand indicated that it would move to resolve trade disputes with the United States with a five-point trade action plan. The first point will have the National Assembly to amend the Patent Act by August, earlier than the year end, as previously promised. The

consideration will be in line with national interests and broad principles of previous discussions under the Uruguay Round.

The United States is known to be particularly interested in having Thailand expand the scope of patent protection laws to cover pharmaceutical products and set transparent rules which include the level of compensation to be paid to patent holders and expanding the protection term from 15 to 20 years.

Amaret Sila-on said the United States will also be officially informed that the amended trade mark bill is to be presented to the National Assembly by April. Thailand is stepping up action against violators of copyrights in audio and video recordings.

The Commerce Ministry has asked the US Embassy in Bangkok to pass on Thailand's intention to correct intellectual property issues to Washington in good time before the April 26 deadline.

Amaret said that in case Thailand is placed up the priority watchlist, its trade with the United States should not be affected. Thailand will have about 6-12 months to reach an amicable agreement with the United States before the retaliation measures are announced. He said both US and Thai businessmen should not panic over the matter. But he did not rule out an immediate impact on political relations between the two countries on the issue. The minister said Thailand would try to ease tensions and resolve the problem.

Amaret Holds Briefing on Section 301 'Progress'
*BK1904150491 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on held a briefing at the ministry this afternoon to report on progress concerning the application of Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act to Thailand. He said there was a high risk that Thailand would be on the blacklist for its failure to give protection to U.S. intellectual property rights. The government has assessed the impact of this, and believes Thailand would be subject to Section 301. If Thailand is designated a priority foreign country, that only means it will be investigated sooner. Yet, the government believes the action will not affect overall trade. However, Thai exporters must be prepared for repercussions. The government does not think there will be any impact on political relations.

Minister Amaret said the Commerce Ministry has expressed to the United States Thailand's attitude and its sincere desire to solve the problem. Thailand will speed up enactment of the draft amendment law on patent protection by the parliament in August, and will accelerate suppression against copyright violators, especially piracy of audio and video cassettes. The United States, he said, agreed to resume talks with Thailand next week in order to avoid political impact from the issue.

Minister on Chances of Averting U.S. 'Watchlist'
*BK2104014691 Bangkok THE NATION in English
21 Apr 91 pp A1, A2*

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on says Thailand has a 50-50 chance of avoiding inclusion on the United States' Priority Foreign Country (PFC) watchlist—a decision that should be made by the US Trade Representative on April 26, two days after high-level talks between the two countries.

The Thai delegation, led by commerce permanent secretary Phatchara Itsarasena, will meet US trade officials in Amsterdam between April 22-24 in a last-ditch effort to avert inclusion on the watchlist.

Thailand currently is on the US priority watchlist, which subjects it to a regular review of its policy and practices on intellectual property protection. Upgrading to the PFC list will allow the US Trade Representative to initiate its own retaliatory action against Thailand. Amaret said Thai delegates will inform their US counterparts that Thailand has advanced its year-end schedule of legislation to August to facilitate passage of an amendment to the Patent Act. He said this will be in line with national interests and the broad principles of previous discussions under the Uruguay Round. Moreover, Thailand will expand the scope of patent protection to cover pharmaceutical products and set transparent rules which include the level of compensation to be paid to patent holders. The protection period will also be expanded from 15 to 20 years.

The amended trademark bill will be sent to the National Legislative Assembly at the end of this month for approval, while the government is stepping up action against violators of copyright for audio and video recordings. "I believe that things will not be as bad as predicted by some quarters because the US is Thailand's major trading partner, buying about 20 percent of our exports. The US has some dependence on Thai goods so any drastic action will also hurt them," the minister said.

Although the Thai action plan which will be officially presented to the US in Amsterdam is still not close to US' demands, he said, both sides will likely achieve some progress. A compromise will prevent Thailand from being placed on the PFC list, a status which will allow the US to initiate retaliatory measures under Section Super 301 of its trade law.

Retaliatory measures include tariff barriers, quotas, and cancellation of tariff privileges. The US is understood to have stepped up its pressure on Thailand as it fears that no real action will be taken as promised by the Thai side in previous negotiations. Amaret stressed Thailand will honour its promises while ensuring that national interests are well protected.

Minister Assures Iraqi Envoy of Post-War Help
*BK2004090691 Bangkok Domestic Service in English
0000 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] The Iraqi ambassador to Thailand has expressed his intention to invite Thai workers to take part in post-war

reconstruction projects in Iraq. The ambassador called on Minister to the Prime Minister's Office M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi recently to inform Thailand that Iraq has been making great efforts in reconstructing the country after the end of the Persian Gulf war.

The minister said Iraq wants to sell its oil products in exchange for food and other basic needs. It also wants to resume trade contacts with Thailand. In addition, Iraq urged Thailand to reopen its embassy in Iraq as soon as possible. The minister told the ambassador that Thailand is willing to offer help if Iraq faces difficulties on food supply as the reconstruction of the country requires a huge sum of money.

Foreign Minister on Aid Mission to Kuwait, Iraq

BK1904144391 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin held a briefing for newsmen at the Information Department's Press Center this afternoon. He said Thailand will send its charge d'affaires and two officials to Kuwait as the situation now permits. Kuwait said it is ready to accommodate officials from Thailand. Thailand, he said, has already sent Kuwait some medical supplies which are badly needed there, and will provide clothing, rice, and food for Kuwait. Kuwait has been informed of the assistance. He said that the minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office, M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, will make an official visit to Kuwait soon to hand over the assistance.

Thailand will also send a mission to Iraq as soon as possible as a result of a recent meeting between the permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry and the Iraqi ambassador. Iraq needs assistance and cooperation, and Thailand is ready to help Iraq.

Touching on help for Thailand's neighbors, namely Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Burma, the foreign minister said Thailand must be farsighted in this respect. Thailand can help its needy neighbors by offering vocational training and education. Although Thailand is not a rich country, it can still help others, and this would contribute to strengthening relations with its neighbors.

7 Military Officers To Join UN Gulf Mission

BK2004034691 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Apr 91 p 6

[Text] Thailand will send seven military officers to take part in the UN Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said yesterday. The proposal had already been forwarded to Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun for his approval, Mr Asa said.

UN Secretary General Javier Perez De Cuellar last week notified the Thai Government that the UN Security Council had consented to inviting Thailand to join UNIKOM.

Seven officers ranking from captain to major from Thailand will join UNIKOM, which comprises 1,440 officers, including 300 military observers. The Thais will remain with UNIKOM for one year. To qualify for the job they

must be healthy, fluent in English, proficient in map-reading, and have field experience.

Thailand will also contribute 630,000 baht towards the UNIKOM operations, which will involve a fund of about US\$83 million for the first six months and US\$40 million for the second phase.

Minister Backs ASEAN Role for Beijing, Moscow

BK2004023291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said he welcomed the move by China and the Soviet Union to establish closer relations with ASEAN.

The participation of Beijing and Moscow as dialogue partners of ASEAN would enhance the regional group's standing, he said, stressing that he was speaking for himself and not on behalf of ASEAN. "Wouldn't it make ASEAN look great, to have the Chinese and Soviet foreign ministers meeting with us?" he said. Recently China and the Soviet Union expressed interest in becoming ASEAN dialogue partners and asked for Thailand's support.

In separate talks with Mr Asa, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huayuan and Soviet Ambassador to Thailand Anatoli Valkov asked to join the dialogue. The issue would have to be decided by senior ASEAN officials who meet next month to prepare for the annual ministerial meeting in July, the Foreign Minister said.

Japan, the EC, the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are current dialogue partners of ASEAN, and South Korea will become a full-fledged dialogue partner at the July ministerial meeting.

Describing the participation of the two world powers as "constructive", the Foreign Minister said the absence of diplomatic relations between ASEAN member Brunei and China would pose no problem as Brunei had no objection. China was reportedly preparing for diplomatic ties with Brunei, the only ASEAN member that has no relations. Senior ASEAN officials would submit recommendations on the issue to their ministers.

At a press session yesterday, Mr Asa said he would visit China around the middle of next month, after a trip to Laos. China has invited Mr Asa to visit prior to President Yang Shangkun's visit to Thailand in mid-June. The question of Indochinese countries joining ASEAN would not be considered at next month's meeting, he said.

Also, the Foreign Minister dismissed reports that foreign governments would send lower-ranking delegates to the World Bank/IMF meeting in October in a symbolic gesture of protest against the military overthrow of the elected government on February 23. "I heard otherwise," Mr Asa said, adding that the over-10,000 delegates will be top-level officials. "Our worry is about traffic during the conference," he said. He played down the significance of martial law.

There is no curfew, no restriction of the Press, and the military junta and the interim civilian government are

taking steps to restore democracy, he said. He also denied that an upcoming visit by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu would have any effect on the lifting of martial law. Asked about progress in restoring normal relations with Saudi Arabia, Mr Asa asked for more time.

Suchinda Departs on 5-Day ASEAN Tour

BK2004152491 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Text] General Suchinda Kraprayun, Army commander and deputy chairman of the National Peacekeeping Assembly, left on a five-day tour to strengthen ties with ASEAN countries.

Before boarding the plane, Gen. Suchinda was asked by newsmen about the report saying that a number of labor union leaders planned to torch themselves to death on the occasion of national labor day. To this, Gen. Suchinda only said that it is the duty of policemen to look after the matter. It was the only question that he answered. Gen. Suchinda made no comment when newsmen asked him about students sending a letter to the prime minister hinting that the prime minister was just a puppet of the National Peacekeeping Assembly.

Gen. Suchinda left for Indonesia on the first leg of his trip.

Asa Reaffirms Efforts Toward Peace in Cambodia

BK2204032291 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said the present Thai Government still wants to see peace established in Cambodia as quickly as possible and continue to hold on to the UNSC [United Nations Security Council] framework as the principle to resolve the Cambodian conflict, because it is the correct principle that has been accepted worldwide.

Asa said that the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia have confirmed their strong intentions of solving the problem. Therefore, the present Thai Government will hold onto the UNSC framework and will give equal treatment to all four Cambodian factions. Thailand will try to find every possible way to encourage the four Cambodian factions to meet and reach an agreement among themselves.

Moreover, Thailand is still trying to encourage Vietnam to find ways to persuade the Phnom Penh government to cooperate with the other three Cambodian factions. What is very important at present is that there will be a joint meeting in Jakarta around this month or next month. All parties, including Thailand, ASEAN countries, China, and Vietnam, should therefore try to help make the meeting as much constructive as possible.

Many people may think that Thailand has removed its hands from the settlement to the Cambodian problem, but in fact we want to see peace quickly established in Cambodia. In connection with the Cambodian issue, Thailand's role is still very important, but we will carry it out quietly, concluded the Thai foreign minister.

SRV Vice Foreign Minister Meets With Officials

BK2204064191 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek has reported that visiting Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Le Mai called on Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin at the Foreign Ministry this morning.

During the meeting, the Vietnamese minister invited his Thai counterpart to visit Vietnam. Asa has accepted the invitation in principle and will fix a date for the visit later.

Apart from this, the Thai foreign minister urged Vietnam to play a constructive role in resolving the Cambodian conflict, as Thailand wants to see this region become peaceful and prosperous and free from war. The Vietnamese visitor agreed, saying that Vietnam believes in the important policy that economic development will only succeed after peace has been established in this region.

Subsequently, Le Mai and Witthaya Wetchachiwa, permanent secretary of the Thai Foreign Ministry, discussed various issues concerning Thai-Vietnamese relations.

Government Prioritizes Relations With Neighbors

BK2104022191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] In an apparent shift from previous foreign policy, the Anan Panyarachun Government has decided to place greater importance on relations with neighbouring Laos and less emphasis on Indochina as a whole.

Reliable government sources said that the strategy was agreed during a meeting of top government policy makers chaired by Prime Minister Anan on Thursday. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Ministers Phao Sarasin, Sano Unakun, Interior Minister Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Permanent Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa, National Security Council minister Suwit Suthanukun and National Intelligence Agency chief Athaya Phaeophanchon.

The meeting decided the Kingdom's diplomatic relations with Laos will receive priority over other neighbouring countries, followed by Burma and the rest of Indochina. Thailand is turning more to Laos because the country is closer—geographically and culturally—to Thailand.

Despite past border conflicts, Thailand will now emphasise upgrading bilateral relations including to providing its land-locked neighbour with more assistance, the sources said.

This week's visit to Thailand by Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut who presented the highest Laotian decoration to Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon marked an important milestone in Thai-Lao relations and coincide with the Thai Government's move to give more importance to Laos, the sources said. Following Laos on the list of priorities will be Burma, the sources said. In addition to continuing diplomatic relations with Burma, Thailand will try to improve them, the sources said.

Although western countries have criticised the suppression of the democratic movement in Burma and called on the world community to boycott the country, Thailand needs to retain good relations with Rangoon for security and economic reasons, they said.

Unlike the previous Chatchai Chunhawan administration, the present Government will place Vietnam and Cambodia third on its list of priorities.

On the Cambodian conflict, the Government's view is that Thailand has already put in a lot of effort to help find a political solution to the conflict and now realises that Thailand alone cannot settle the problem. Because the term of the present Government is short, the meeting decided to take no new initiatives to try to solve the Khmer issue, the sources said. But Thailand will continue to participate in ongoing efforts to find a peaceful solution to the problem, the sources said. Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin will keep his plan to visit Vietnam.

During the meeting Prime Minister Anan said he would visit Indonesia at the right time, the sources said. Mr Anan originally planned to visit Malaysia but switched to Indonesia after learning that Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad is unwell and may go abroad for a medical checkup, the sources said.

Anan Fixes 'Definite Time' To Lift Martial Law

*BK2104013591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
21 Apr 91 p A2*

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said last night that he already has in his mind the exact time to lift martial law but would not say how soon the abrogation will take place. "I have already fixed a definite time," he said during a party at the Foreign Ministry when asked about the abrogation of martial law.

Academics, student activists and some politicians have called for the abrogation of martial law after the establishment of the civilian government by the National Peacekeeping Council. Anan earlier said that martial law will be scrapped "at the right time" but refused to say when.

In a related development yesterday, a group of student activists launched a public relations campaign at the Victory Monument and outside the Central Plaza shopping complex to woo public support to their demand for the abrogation of martial law. The students distributed campaign leaflets to passers-by and persuaded them to sign a petition to the government calling it to lift martial law, imposed by the military junta after it toppled the Chatchai government on Feb 23.

'Source' on Lifting of Martial Law

*BK2004022391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
20 Apr 91 p 1*

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun is expected to lift martial law shortly after the May 1 labour celebrations, according to a well-informed source.

The source said the timing was prompted by concern in government quarters that there may be disruptive activity on May Day as labour unions celebrate the annual event.

There was some anticipation previously that martial law would be lifted prior to the Bangkok visit of Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu who is due here beginning April 30. But it now appears this would not be the case.

Asked by reporters whether martial law would be lifted some time between May 1 and May 5, Supreme Commander and National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] Chairman Sunthon Khongsomphong said that only Prime Minister Anan could provide an answer to that question. "You have to ask the Prime Minister. I have no authority on the matter. The legal jurisdiction belongs to the Prime Minister," Gen Sunthon said.

A group of university students yesterday rallied in front of Government House to ask the Prime Minister to revoke martial law and to scrap an NPKC order which bans political gatherings of five or more people. The group of seven students held cloth banners carrying messages calling on the Prime Minister to revoke martial law. "If you are not a puppet government, you must lift martial law," one banner read.

The students said they would continue a campaign to gather 10,000 signatures from the public in support of their demand for the Government to lift martial law and the ban on political gatherings.

Ministry Orders Provinces To Prepare for Election

*BK2104020391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Apr 91 p 3*

[Text] The Interior Ministry has instructed provincial authorities nationwide to start preparing for a general election to be held once the new constitution is completed.

In an order to provincial governors by Permanent Secretary Charoenchit na Songkhla, provincial authorities are to start forming teams to oversee preparation work for the polls. The officials are to closely follow progress in the drafting work of the constitution and the new election law. They are also to assign officials to prepare election materials and equipment along with lists of eligible voters to ensure that all will be ready once an election date is set.

Mr Charoenchit said the ministry is trying to ensure that a general election can be held within 30 days after an announcement of the new Constitution. Apart from preparation for the election, the ministry has also started gearing up to campaign among the people to prevent vote-buying.

The Cabinet will be asked on Tuesday to approve a 400-million-baht budget to finance an Interior Ministry plan to campaign against vote-buying nationwide. The requested budget will be spent on training Interior Ministry's personnel on the development of democracy.

Each province will be required to send three representatives to undergo training on democratic principles at the

Local Administration Department's [LAD] Administrators' College. The provincial representatives will then travel back to their respective provinces to train officials at the district level. The officials at the district level will organise similar training courses for teams at the village level which will each comprise a teacher, a village scout, a village headman and a local community leader.

In all, some 250,393 people will be sent out to 62,373 villages throughout the country to campaign against vote-buying. The programme is expected to last about five months. The training course at the LAD's Administrators' College is scheduled to be held between April 25-26.

Former Prime Minister Chatchai Returns to UK

BK1904022591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Apr 91 p A2

[Text] Former prime minister Chatchai Chunhavan returned to Britain yesterday for the second phase of his "vacation" since his overthrow by the military about two months ago.

Chatchai left on a Thai Airways International flight shortly before midnight without his wife, Thanphuying Bunruan, who said she would follow him to Britain later. "I'll come back when I no longer feel tired," Chatchai told reporters who crowded his Soi Ratchakhru residence. "I want the situation here to return to normal as soon as possible. We all have to turn to each other to solve the country's problems."

Chatchai said he was concerned about the Thai economy. "Thailand used to be in the world's Group A as far as economic development is concerned," he said.

During his brief stay here, Chatchai met caretaker Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun. "I told him I'm always available for help, if he needs it."

"He will come back when the country needs him," Bunruan told reporters half-jokingly.

Vietnam

Radio on Vessey Visit, MIA Office in Hanoi

CM2204174591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Text] Under an agreement reached by the SRV Government and the U.S. Government, a U.S. delegation led by General John W. Vessey, special envoy of the U.S. President, arrived in Hanoi for a visit from 19 to 20 April.

Nguyen Co Thach, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and General John Vessey held talks on humanitarian issues of Vietnam and the United States as well as other issues of common concern. This afternoon, General John Vessey and his party left Hanoi, concluding their visit to Vietnam.

The two sides unanimously issued the following joint statement:

Nguyen Co Thach, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and John Vessey, U.S. presidential envoy, met in Hanoi, April 19-20, to review the situation of the MIA issue.

General Vessey's trip to Vietnam had been agreed to during Minister Nguyen Co Thach's visit to Washington last October 17. At that time, Minister Nguyen Co Thach and General Vessey agreed on certain steps which would be taken to accelerate and improve efforts to resolve the MIA issue.

Since the October meeting, there have been two technical meetings in Hanoi of investigation research specialists and technical experts and completion of the 12th and 13th joint investigations and the humanitarian meeting in January.

General Vessey expressed the United States' appreciation for the cooperation the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has displayed in the efforts as well as the improvements which have been made in this process. At the same time General Vessey expressed the hope that even further progress and greater results can be obtained in the future.

To that end, Minister Nguyen Co Thach and General Vessey discussed ways that cooperation, including the MIA matters, could be improved. They agreed it was desirable to enhance the already established mechanisms for carrying out joint field investigations and for examining reports of sightings of live Americans. Minister Nguyen Co Thach and General Vessey also indicated that it was desirable to improve efforts in information research and the planning for joint investigations.

In keeping with discussions they had in Washington last October, they therefore agreed that the U.S. would establish an MIA office in Hanoi on a temporary basis.

The two delegation leaders also reviewed other humanitarian issues including the significant financial contribution by the United States to the effort to evacuate over 16,000 Vietnamese guest workers who were imperiled in Iraq during the Gulf war. It was noted that the U.S. contribution enabled this international effort to be successfully completed.

Minister Thach and General Vessey both reaffirmed their government's desire to normalize relations and agreed on the importance of continuing discussion to resolve differences between the two sides. They agreed that it would be useful for them to meet again, at a date to be determined.

Paper Views U.S. Congress Testimonies on Cambodia

BK2004141991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1000 GMT 20 Apr 91

[From the Press Review for 20 April]

[Text] Under the headline: "Surrounding the Hearing in Washington Recently of Two Testimonies on Cambodia," an article on page 4 of HANOI MOI says that almost all the senators and congressmen who heard the two testimonies given recently in Washington were of the view that the settlement of the Cambodian issue is being hampered by

injustices created in a draft agreement of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. They called for reexamining this draft agreement, taking into account the Phnom Penh administration's concerns. They criticized the U.S. Administration for having failed to scrupulously implement various congressional resolutions. Representative Atkins denounced the U.S. Administration for its attempt to use the Khmer Rouge as a tool against Vietnam. He called for eliminating the Khmer Rouge from any solution to the Cambodian issue. The congressmen maintained that now is the time to separate the Cambodian issue from U.S.-Vietnamese relations, to hold direct talks with the State of Cambodia over matters concerning the United States—such as the need to prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power, the question of refugees at the border, and a solution to the civil war—and to hold talks with Vietnam over the question of Americans missing in action, frozen assets, trade matters, and the normalization of relations between the two countries. Now is the time to give up the U.S. policies of isolating itself and penalizing American businessmen at a time when other countries are busy doing business with Vietnam in defiance of the U.S. embargo order.

Radio Reports Further

*BK2104102191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] On 10 and 11 April in Washington D.C., two testimonies were given at the Asia Pacific Subcommittee of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives and at the Asia-Pacific Subcommittee of the U.S. Senate on the Cambodian issue. Besides the testimony of Assistant Secretary of State Solomon, House Representative Atkins testified at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives and Senator Robert Kerrey testified at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The following is the summary of noteworthy issues presented at the testimonies:

Most of the senators and house representatives presumed that a solution to the Cambodian issue is facing difficulties because the draft agreement of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council is not fair and that it is necessary to review the draft to pay more attention to the Phnom Penh government's concerns.

The senators criticized the U.S. Government for not seriously implementing the Congress' resolution. The aim of the U.S. is the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, the prevention of the Khmer Rouge's return to power, and the implementation of the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people.

Now, as the Vietnamese troops have withdrawn, the first aim of the U.S. must be the prevention of the Khmer Rouge from returning to power in Cambodia. However, the U.S. took part positively in drafting the agreement which was completely supported by China and the Khmer Rouge because it cooperates with the Khmer Rouge and gives them a chance to strengthen their military and political forces.

Representative Atkins denounced the U.S. administration for using the Khmer Rouge as an instrument against Vietnam, and called for the elimination of the Khmer Rouge from a solution to Cambodia.

The draft has not directly condemned the genocidal regime and has allowed genocidal criminals such as Son Sen to join the SNC [Supreme National Council]. Therefore, it is completely supported by the Khmer Rouge.

On the contrary, the draft wants to weaken the Phnom Penh administration which is the sole force that can prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power. It is understandable why the Phnom Penh administration has not accepted the draft agreement? Why can't general elections like those held in Nicaragua or Namibia be organized in Cambodia? The general elections took place in a really democratic manner in these areas. Moreover, recent U.S. activities have shown that the U.S. is still directly supporting the Khmer Rouge. Certainly, U.S. aid to the noncommunist Cambodian resistance factions has indirectly helped the Khmer Rouge, and the Sihanouk force has cooperated with the Khmer Rouge. The evidence is that Sihanouk soldiers were seen standing on Khmer Rouge tanks as shown in the photograph taken by the U.S. television corporation ABC.

The bill on humanitarian aid requests that the people inside Cambodia be given assistance. However, thus far the U.S. administration has not done so. It continues to implement the policy of envelopment, isolation, and trade embargo against the Phnom Penh administration in order to weaken the latter and, of course, to benefit the Khmer Rouge.

The senators said that it is about time to detach the Cambodian issue from U.S.-Vietnamese relations, to directly talk to the Cambodian state about matters of U.S. concern—such as preventing the return to power of the Khmer Rouge, the refugees along the border, and a solution to the civil war—and to negotiate with Vietnam on the issue of missing Americans, frozen assets, trade, and the normalization of relations between the two countries.

It is time for the U.S. to give up its policy of self-isolation and punishment of U.S. businessmen while all other countries are busy doing business with Vietnam and ignoring the U.S. trade embargo.

The U.S. Government representative also had to admit that the U.S. is sympathetic toward the Phnom Penh administration concerning the Khmer Rouge danger, that the U.S. continued to condemn the genocidal regime, and that if the related sides can reach an agreement, the U.S. will issue a separate statement.

Recent rumors about the Sihanouk and Son Sann forces' cooperation with the Khmer Rouge have made the U.S. administration temporarily suspend the implementation of the budget approved for 1991. Nevertheless, the administration still tries to justify its stand, saying that U.S. aid to those forces is necessary.

Opinion at the two testimonies contended that the U.S. administration must face the situation and somewhat

admit the unfairness of the draft agreement by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and of its own activities.

In the 11 April issue of THE WASHINGTON POST, journalist (Marvey Lovi) wrote that according to some observers, the Vietnam syndrome still exists and the victims who are suffering the most are the top leaders of the Bush administration.

The U.S. news agency UPI on 11 April remarked that the U.S. administration is struggling for the existence of its policy on Cambodia, which is being attacked from many directions and is seriously injured by Congress.

The film entitled "Inside of the Khmer Rouge" shown at Congress has reflected the threat of the Khmer Rouge's return. On 25 April, the Senate External Affairs Committee will hold testimony on U.S.- Vietnamese relations.

Radio Reports U.S. Senator's Article on Ties

BK1904154991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] The U.S. journal CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR on 5 April carried an article by Senator Richard Lugar, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on U.S.-Vietnamese relations, entitled "Time To Have a New Way of Thinking About Vietnam."

The author said that although the United States has ordered an embargo against Vietnam following the war, this has been ignored by almost all other countries. Foreign businessmen are ready to jump into the Vietnamese market. In fact, there remains only one definition about the implementation of this embargo policy [sentence as heard]. According to the author, the United States can help alleviate the difficulties presently confronting Vietnam by encouraging the renovation process.

During his visit to Vietnam last August, Senator Lugar realized that the principles of market economy have become deep-rooted in the thinking of the Vietnamese Government, particularly in the agricultural sphere. Consequently, the author held that the United States should encourage such trends through the promotion of reform instead of behaving like an outsider. The United States also needs to seek new markets amidst a crucial trade situation.

Regarding steps to be taken in relations with Vietnam, Senator Lugar held that it is time to revise those regulations which have hampered U.S. trade and other related activities. First of all, it is necessary to lift the embargo and proceed towards normalizing relations with Vietnam. The Vietnam war is already over and has been further driven into oblivion in the wake of the Gulf war.

AFP: Leading Writer Duong Thu Huong Arrested

BK1904122891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1218 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi, April 19 (AFP)—Duong Thu Huong, a leading figure among the new generation of Vietnamese writers, was arrested Wednesday in Hanoi, diplomatic sources said Friday.

The arrest of Mrs. Huong, whose work placed her at the vanguard of the movement to renew Vietnamese literature, has not been officially confirmed.

Widely known in her country, Mrs. Huong, 43, is a journalist and novelist who notably published "Beyond Illusions" in 1987 and "Paradise of the Blind" in 1988.

Mrs. Huong, who has been deeply involved in the movement to free the Vietnamese novel from the shackles of official literature, has expounded some theses that are very daring in Communist-ruled Vietnam. Western sources said Mrs. Huong was being held in one of the Interior Ministry's official guesthouses rather than in jail.

The arrest comes as a number of Vietnamese intellectuals, including exiled journalist Bui Tin and Ho Chi Minh city physician Nguyen Khac Vien, are calling for political reforms in Vietnam, where the 7th Communist Party Congress is due to be held in June.

Logistics General Department Holds Party Congress

Part 1

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[By Khanh Toan]

[Text] Along with various organs of the Ministry of National Defense, the first round party organization congress of the Logistics General Department was held in Hanoi last week.

Attending were 220 delegates representing various establishments under the general department, including various Army generals, high-ranking officers, experts, and those command cadres directly working on the logistics front who had been nominated to attend the above congress by lower-level, first-round party organization congresses.

In addition to those well-experienced logistics staff cadres who had graduated from various military, political, and logistics institutes, some 45 percent of those attending the congress were listed as college graduates, 16 as post graduates, 11 professors and lecturers, and 11 doctoral candidates. These figures belie the selection with a high sense of responsibility in mind by those attending low-level party organization congresses with the aim of increasing the wisdom of the congress and contributing to various documents of the party at this strategic level.

Prior to conducting the general department-wide first-round party organization congress, in compliance with instructions from the party Central Committee secretary and the party Central Committee Military Commission, all party organizations of the Logistics General Department had simultaneously organized discussions for party members and the masses to study, discuss, and contribute views on various documents to be presented at the Seventh Party Congress. Some 50,000 party members and 30,000 non-party members contributed over 15,000 ideas to five party documents. Political organs at various echelons usefully acted as advisers to related party committee echelons, trying to ensure the discussion of these five documents and

to provide guidance for the contribution of views to the documents while directing the movement for revolutionary action at the party congresses at various levels with high results.

During the five-day congress, the participants contributed their views and engaged in heated debates. It was universally agreed that during the period 1930-75, the victories of the Vietnamese revolution under the party's leadership were great. Over the past 15 years, since the peaceful reunification of the country, we have firmly defended our socialist fatherland and fulfilled our glorious internationalist duty toward the Lao and Cambodian revolutions. Despite mistakes and shortcomings found on the economic front, the renovation process has, since 1986, effected initial changes for the better, creating the foundation for political stabilization and for constantly guiding our country through tough challenges amid a complicated international situation.

Contributing her views on the overall evaluation of the situation, Comrade Nguyen Thi Thanh, delegate from the X-28 enterprise party organization in Ho Chi Minh city, said:

[Begin recording] Our enterprise party organization congress totally agreed with the evaluation of victories as outlined in the draft platform. At our congress, certain participants said they did not agree with the fact that we rated these victories as great. Our X-48 party organization unanimously agreed that the rating of these victories was totally correct. It is very correct to rate as great the many victories scored by our party since its founding, given the conditions faced by Vietnam, such as its limited material foundation, its poverty, and its long years under colonial rule. Our nation has long been known for its brave tradition of having everyone, including women, fight enemy aggressors. Since the party came into being, our people have been ready to follow the party to the end to regain their national independence and freedom. Various generations of Vietnamese have dedicated their blood and bones to the country, defeating one imperialist country after another, achieving national unification, and taking Vietnam forward. Given the untold hardships and sacrifices we have endured in the past, failing to view these victories as great amounts to being ungrateful to the sacrifices of the many heroes, fallen combatants, those mothers who lost their sons, and those wives who lost their husbands for the sake of a unified and peaceful Vietnam, as it is today.

As for the question of weaknesses in work implementation, our party still displays many shortcomings in its rule over the state. All our party members, from the grass roots to the central levels, should profoundly criticize themselves before the entire party and people without speaking in generalities or covering up shortcomings. We are determined to struggle against and boldly acknowledge our mistakes and shortcomings pointed out by the people so we can unfailingly redress them and continue to perform the duty entrusted by the people to the party for carrying

out in the new stage, that is, leading the Vietnamese revolution forward despite the current situation. [end recording]

From correctly evaluating the victories of the Vietnamese revolution under the party's leadership and drawing on various lessons of experience from the many stages of the party's leadership over the revolution, the party organization congress of the Logistics General Department clearly affirmed that continuing to advance toward socialism is an unchangeable orientation and also an historic mandate of our entire party and people. With this orientation, the political platform is a declaration of the party during the new revolutionary stage—the stage in which we will take the entire country along the socialist path.

Comrade Thai Van Son, a delegate from the Logistics Officer School, said:

[Begin recording] To contribute my views as a delegate from the Logistics Officer School, I agree to all the party's viewpoints and concepts in posing the question of building a new socialist society in Vietnam during the transitional period. Due to time limits, I am dealing with only one subject, that is, the need to include a preamble in the platform for socialist construction. As I see it, the preamble should discuss three points. The first point is to clearly explain the reason for the promulgation of this platform. This should, in turn, point out the relationship between Platform No. 1 of 1930 and the historic circumstances of our country and the world as a whole at present. The second point is that we should unfailingly bring out the position, role, goal, and significance of the platform. The third point is that we should necessarily point out in the preamble the attitude and concepts of our entire party and people over the cause of socialist construction in Vietnam. [end recording]

As for the strategy for economic development until the year 2000, all the ideas affirmed that in this decade, we should strive to develop to the fullest our country's potential and combine our national strength with the epochal strength if we are to see our country through the current economic crisis and advance it along the socialist economy-oriented path. Favoring a multisectoral economy and strengthening international economic relations constitute a decisive factor for our country's economic growth. However, faced with such a situation, maintaining the state-run economy as a leading component of the socialist economy should continue to be a principled characteristic which should under no circumstances be ignored.

Many participants engaged in a rather ebullient debate over the question of whether party members can participate in the privately run economy. For the most part, those debating this question said: As the task of building and defending the socialist fatherland in the new stage creates many requirements regarding the abilities and intelligence of each party member, it would not be enough if the party resorts merely to persuasion and example-setting efforts. Instead, it should truly assume the economic guidance and management task and have party members set good examples in economic construction.

Comrade Nguyen Tien Long, a delegate from the 11th engineering corporation, said:

[Begin recording] In various documents, especially the document on party building, we have not yet emphasized the party's economic achievements as well as its initial achievements scored since the Sixth Party Congress [words indistinct]. If a Communist Party member approves the party platform, then he should approve the party's statute. I think that when we move our economy from poverty and backwardness to socialism, we must move through a long transitional period. The platform and other documents of the party have shown that we have a multisectoral economy. In addition, we should also admit that there is a transitional period. Like ordinary citizens, party members should be allowed to enrich themselves as it is the party's policy to make the people prosperous and the country powerful. Party members should also be good economic builders and should not continue to lead a puritanical life just because they are pursuing socialism as was previously the case, thus leaving people outside the party to enjoy a plentiful life. [end recording]

Conclusion

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[Text] At the first round congress of delegates of the Logistics General Department's party organization, many aspects of the national defense and security problem were discussed in a rather lively manner by the delegates. In their statements, all the delegates maintained that while having to incessantly broaden international relations to create every favorable condition for advancing the national economy, the party must attach utmost importance to national defense. If the economy is developed, but national independence and freedom are jeopardized, that will be too high a price to pay for economic development. However, if we apply ourselves solely to national defense without being bold enough to broaden external economic relations, national development will be hampered. The important thing is to skillfully combine these two strategic tasks both in elaborating our platform and line and in guiding practices. The economic strategy must be closely linked with the logistic strategy to effectively serve the task of safeguarding national security and defending national sovereignty.

Major General Dang Huyen Phuong, delegate of the party organization of the Logistics General Department's staff, said:

[Begin recording] Concerning logistics, first of all we must improve logistic procedures to make them compatible with the market mechanism in the period of transition to socialism and to meet the demands of the armed forces. We must always stand ready to cope with all new problems to prevent them from affecting the quality and pace of logistic work both in a normal situation and in an emergency. Second, in the days ahead, the technical units, especially the transportation and oil supply units, which will need considerable amounts of technical means and equipment which our industry cannot produce in the next

10 years—while their importation is difficult because of the shortages of foreign currencies—should set aside as much technical equipment and means as possible for use as combat reserves. In carrying out their task of regularly serving the armed forces, the transportation and oil supply units must devise the most effective measures possible, using few vehicles and little gasoline but still fulfilling their tasks, thereby keeping some vehicles and fuel in reserve to meet unexpected demand. Third, the logistic service's production work, including industrial and agricultural production, construction projects, and other scientific and technical activities, should be oriented on a long-term basis to be effectively consolidated and developed, thus contributing to reducing defense expenses. In the period of transition to socialism, with a multisector commodity economy operating in accordance with the market mechanism, the economic units and establishments of the Logistics General Department that practice profit-and-loss accounting are facing crucial trials. To survive and develop, they must compete and constantly carry out technical renovation if their products are to be accepted by the market. To help in this task, we should provide the necessary means and create favorable conditions for the economic and service units and establishments to bring into full play all their potential, including their technical equipment, factories, experience, skills, and traditions. They should be allowed to choose suitable economic products for production, to deal directly with customers, and to establish contact with all consumption markets in strict accordance with the regulations established by the state and the Ministry of National Defense. We accept the fact that we must learn while doing things, that practice makes perfect, and that mistakes are inevitable but that we will correct them as they are detected. By the same token, success will be recognized, encouraged, and developed. We must administer management in a truly correct, accurate, and timely manner in conformity with the renovated mechanism to create proper conditions for the grass roots to produce material wealth for society and contribute to the defense budget, which will face great difficulties in the years ahead. [end recording].

The delegates focused their lively discussions on many aspects of the Report on Party Building and the Amended Party Statutes. They stressed that we must be cool-headed, objective, and frank in judging the party to affirm unequivocally that the successes of the Vietnamese revolution over the past 60 years have been those of the party leadership, and that the party itself must also bear responsibility before the nation and the entire people for the stagnation in the country over the past 10 years. We should not allow the current difficulties to detract from the great victories the nation has recorded since the party assumed leadership. However, we should guard against being totally absorbed in evaluating successes without having the courage to look squarely at mistakes and shortcomings to chart our path of advance in the new period.

Nguyen Tien Long, a delegate from the party organization of Corporation 11, said:

[Begin recording] As a party member, I would like to talk about the recent developments in Eastern Europe. In the

extremely difficult and complex situation the country is facing at present, especially in 1991 and in the initial stage of the transitional period, the question of whether our party has the confidence of the people depends mainly on whether our party really acts as a ruling party. To be a ruling party, the key requirement is that both its upper and lower echelons must be strong. If the upper echelon is not righteous, the lower echelon will be confused. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the congress take note of this point: First, in the struggle against disunity, factionalism, and localism in the various levels of leadership, we must begin with the highest level in the party. This is an important point, because unity and single-mindedness in the provinces, the cities, the ministries, and even the grass roots are possible only if the comrades in the Political Bureau and the Central Committee uphold unity and single-mindedness. The people will trust the party only if it is united, single-minded, and strong. Second, the party must be consolidated from the lower level up. All party bases, especially the party chapters and party cells, must be strong. This is the foundation. We should proceed in the same way builders do in constructing a house. Every house must have a foundation; if there is no foundation or if the foundation is weak or cracked, the house will collapse. For this reason, the party must be consolidated from the party chapters up. Our party must be fully aware of this fact. We must sound a special alarm about the weakness of the party chapters up. Every year we examine the performance and evaluate the quality of party members and party chapters, but I believe that all the Central Committee's knowledge of the activities of party chapters is based solely on reports, and that the Central Committee has not grasped the essence of this problem. Our greatest concern about party building lies in this fact. [end recording]

Many delegates pointed to the need to foster and increase the party's militancy to make the party equal to the demands of the new situation and tasks. The party's life must be maintained and attention must be paid to develop the party qualitatively instead of quantitatively. The human strategy applied in the assignment of party and state cadres should reflect continuity and development because this is the most fundamental conditions for different generations to mix and complement one another, thereby carrying on the party's glorious past and incessantly bringing into full play its role and capacity at present and in the future.

Ha Hoc Si, a party member of the party organization of the Gas and Oil Department, stressed:

[Begin recording] To foster the people's confidence in the party, we should satisfactorily resolve three problems: First, we must quickly extricate the country from the current crisis by successfully implementing the various socioeconomic programs to improve the people's living standards and to ensure political security and social order and safety. We would like to suggest that the Central Committee think hard to set socioeconomic targets that are attainable, thus boosting public confidence. Second, the party must mobilize the masses, first of all inside the

party, to continue waging a fierce struggle against corruption and the practice of bullying the people among a number of cadres holding positions of power. There must be strict regulations to allow the working people to exercise democracy at all costs, with due attention paid to the implementation of economic democracy. Third, the party and state must quickly abolish all irrational systems and regulations that smack of special prerogatives and privileges—a factor that has caused the strongest public resentment at present—to take a step further in realizing social justice. Our party must do a truly good job of handling personnel work; only in this way can the successful implementation of the Political Platform and the Strategy for Socioeconomic Development—to be adopted by the upcoming Seventh Party Congress—be guaranteed. I am convinced that, learning from the recent successes and setbacks, Vietnam, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, will surely advance step by step and will make the people prosperous and the country strong. [end recording]

During five days of intensive and serious work amid an atmosphere permeated with unity, enthusiasm, democracy, and candor, the first round congress of delegates of the Logistics General Department's party organization concentrated its intellect on elucidating many issues in the various draft documents to be presented to the Seventh Party Congress.

On behalf of the presidium of the congress, Lieutenant General Nguyen Trong Xuyen, member of the party Central Committee and director of the Logistics General Department, read the petitions addressed by the congress to the all-Army and national party congresses:

[Begin recording] The party organization of the Logistics General Department would like to propose the following points to the all-Army and national party congresses:

First, it is necessary to define more clearly the essential characteristics of our time and contradictions in our society. Second, it is necessary to clearly define the working class nature of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Vietnamese state of proletarian dictatorship. Third, it is necessary to continue carrying out the two strategic tasks, to promote a thorough understanding of the viewpoint of combining economic building with national defense and vice versa, to build the all-people revolutionary regular national defense and to modernize it step by step, and to firmly defend the socialist Vietnamese fatherland in any eventuality. Fourth, the party and state should take early action to amend and supplement some social policies to ensure social justice and fairness, especially the policies on the welfare of soldiers and their families, and of the forces engaged in scientific, healthcare, and educational work. Adequate investment should be made for the national defense industry. Fifth, the party's organizational and personnel work must be really renovated. The planning, training, management, and use of the contingent of party cadres and members must be carried out in a truly democratic, open, and accurate manner. Sixth, social laws and discipline must be seriously maintained, managed, and enforced. First of all, corruption

must be absolutely suppressed, and special prerogatives and privileges, factionalism, and graft in the party and state organs must be eliminated. [end recording]

The delegation of the Logistics General Department's party organization to the upper-level party congress elected by the congress comprised 16 full members and two alternate members. On behalf of the delegates trusted and chosen by the congress, Lieutenant General Tran Trac,

secretary of the Logistics General Department's party committee, showed their high sense of responsibility for conveying the spirit of the general department's party congress to the all-Army party congress with a view toward contributing to the intellect of the armed forces' party organization, thus joining with other party organizations in the entire party to ensure the brilliant success of the Seventh National Party Congress.

